

# THE U. F. A.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF  
THE UNITED FARMERS of ALBERTA

Vol. III.

CALGARY, ALBERTA, APRIL 1, 1924

No. 11

## Case for the Amendment of the Workmen's Compensation Act of Alberta

By ELMER E. ROPER

The Alberta Federation of Labor has requested amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Act which will provide more liberal payments to injured workmen and the dependents of workmen who have been killed in industry. From the standpoint of the subsistence of those affected the increases are greatly needed.

According to evidence submitted to the Agriculture Committee of the Legislature by Captain McLeod of the Mothers' Allowance Act administration, it has been found that \$72.00 is the amount required for a widow and three children to live in the City of Edmonton. The Alberta Workmen's Compensation Act only allows the sum of \$57.50 for a widow and three children. The Dominion Government in pensions to soldiers' widows allows \$60.00 for the widow, \$15.00 for the first child, \$12.00 for the second child, \$10.00 for the third child, or a total of \$97.00 for a widow and three children as compared with the \$57.50 paid under the Compensation Act in Alberta. Every authority on the subject, including the Federal Department of Labor, testify to the fact that the amounts paid to widows and children under the Alberta Workmen's Compensation Act are inadequate. The Province of Ontario pays \$40.00 to a widow and \$10.00 to each child with a maximum of \$111.00, as compared with \$35.00 and \$7.50 and a maximum of \$65.00 in Alberta.

### MAXIMUM AMOUNT TO WORKMEN LOW

The amount paid to injured workmen in Alberta is also low. It is 55 per cent. of average earnings, as compared with 66 2-3 per cent. in Ontario and Manitoba and 62½ per cent. in British Columbia. Labor in Alberta is asking to have the amounts in this Province increased to the rates paid in Manitoba and Ontario.

The Alberta branch of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association have been spending a great deal of money on propaganda with which they have been bombarding the members of the Legislature. Particular stress is laid on the increased cost to industry which will be caused by the proposed amendments, which cost will naturally be passed on to the consumer. How much the increased cost will affect the consumer it is interesting to observe. The one case in which the consumer

The case for the proposed amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Act, published on this page, has been specially written at the request of "The U. F. A." by Elmer E. Roper, Secretary of the Alberta Federation of Labor and Editor of the Alberta Labor News. While the problems which the farmers and city labor must ultimately solve are fundamentally the same, members of each group are compelled by force of circumstances to concentrate almost their entire attention upon questions of immediate practical importance to themselves. In this case, however, we feel confident that a careful presentation of the case for a legislative reform which is being sought by organized labor will prove of special interest to our readers.

The Alberta Labor News has always devoted much space to recording the progress of the U. F. A. for the benefit of its city readers. As is well known, it is the only city newspaper published in Alberta which has consistently and with unfeigned enthusiasm welcomed every success which the Association has achieved, both in the field of economic effort and in political action. On occasions when every daily newspaper in the Province has joined in the attempt of the political parties to create division between the various branches of the organization, the Labor News has been consistent in loyal friendship and has never failed to rebut and condemn every attack which has been made upon the U. F. A. The News' interpretation of the farmers' aims and purposes has contributed in no small measure to seal the cordial relationships which have always been maintained in Alberta between the organized farmers and organized labor. We are satisfied, therefore, that in this instance, our readers will welcome the opportunity to read the very forcefully presented case for a measure primarily of interest to city workers. The political parties in Alberta and some newspapers are today putting forth a determined and sustained effort to create confusion and misunderstanding between the two groups.—Editor.

pays any appreciable amount for workmen's compensation is the six cents which is added to the cost of a ton of coal to pay for compensation to injured workmen and their dependents in that hazardous industry. The proposed increases will add only approximately a cent to that amount. (It should be interesting to note that the consumer who buys British Columbia coal pays 16¼ cents on each ton for workmen's compensation.) In industries outside of coal mining the consumer pays practically nothing for workmen's compensation.

### THE CASE OF A PAIR OF OVERALLS

For example, in the garment industry the employer pays a rate of one-tenth of one per cent. on his payroll, or ten cents on each hundred dollars. Placing the labor cost on a pair of overalls, for instance, at one dollar, the consumer pays one-tenth of one cent for workmen's compensation when he purchases a pair of overalls. Is not that a cheap method of taking care of industry's casualties and preventing them from becoming a direct charge on the State? The increases proposed to bring the

payments in Alberta up to the standard of Ontario would not increase the cost of a pair of overalls more than a one-hundredth part of a cent.

The rates paid by industry for workmen's compensation in Alberta are lower than in any other Province in the Dominion; that is, coal operators pay less for compensation than is paid in the same industry in any other Province. (The rate in Alberta in the mining industry was 3 per cent., while in B. C. the rate was 3.75 per cent.) So also in the garment industry, logging, building and other industries, the rate of assessment in Alberta is lower than in other Provinces. In Saskatchewan, where the employers must carry employers' liability insurance, the rates are from two to four times as high as in Alberta, without half the protection that the employers in this Province have. The Manufacturers' Association therefore have no reasonable grounds for opposing the increases asked for by Labor.

The Labor people of the Province confidently hope that the Farmer members will support them in securing the proposed increases. Labor understands better than anybody else the

(Continued on Page 14.)



# FARM EQUIPMENT



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## Plan Organization of Provincial Livestock Marketing Assn.

Definite Steps Taken at Meeting Held in Lacombe on March 20th

Definite steps towards the organization of a Provincial Livestock Co-operative Marketing Association, on a contract basis, were taken at a meeting held in Lacombe on March 20th, attended by representatives of the following co-operative associations: Pincher Creek, Hanna, Egremont, Beaver River, Acme, Waskatenau, Stettler, Leduc, Lamont, Monitor and Consort, Rodeo, Central Alberta, Buffalo Lake, Ponoka and Delburne to Grainger. G. E. Roose, Camrose, C. H. MacFarquhar, Cremona, and Andrew Rafn, Bon Accord, of the U.F.A. Marketing Committee, and Wm. Spurrell of the Canadian Co-operative Meat Export Association, were also present.

After the situation had been thoroughly canvassed, a resolution declaring in the preamble that it was essential for the welfare of everyone in Canada that the agricultural producer must receive adequate returns and that more efficient marketing methods be developed, and that it was desirable to co-operate with existing agencies working for improvement in producing, marketing and distributing meat products, was brought in.

### Propose Provincial Board

The resolution, which was carried unanimously, calls for the organization of a Provincial livestock marketing association under the contract plan, through local co-operative associations; the appointment by each association represented at the meeting of a trustee, these trustees to form a provisional board of directors, who will gather necessary information and secure legal advice, etc.

The provisional board of fifteen elected M. A. McMillan as their chairman and A. C. Johnstone as secretary, who, with the following, will constitute an executive committee: D. A. Stringer, Pincher Creek; R. A. Van Slyke, Red Deer; B. Olsen, St. Paul; J. S. Earle, Acme.

### HOW TO CONQUER "THE BLUES"

Wintering Hills Local, according to a letter from the secretary, B. F. Austin, has just emerged from an attack of the blues. "Broke as an organization, as well as individuals, we had failed for two consecutive meetings to get a good attendance. So the president and the secretary went to the ladies, begging for help. It took them just a week to put over a box social and dance which brought in \$120; but that is not all. During the evening they led fifteen farmers to the secretary and saw that they were enrolled as new members, and they say they have just made a beginning."

### CANVASS, CONCEIT AND DEBATE

Canvassing for new members is only part of a contest that is being carried on by the Westwood Local. Each side is made responsible also for giving a debate and a concert, and prizes will be awarded on the basis of all three undertakings. The canvass is proving very successful, and one of the concerts has already been held and greatly enjoyed. A very popular item was the singing of two original choruses by Mr. H. Rushon—"Joy the Wheat Pool", and "The U. F. A."

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## EDITORIAL

The bill to incorporate the Alberta Co-operative Wheat Producers, Ltd., and legislation to provide for the co-operative marketing of other products of the farm, will be considered in the Assembly this week. We hope to give an extensive account of the discussion of these measures in our next issue.

\* \* \*

There is this to be said about the Alberta Workmen's Compensation Act. It gives to employees no new rights. Under the ancient common law every employee injured in industry, and his dependents if he is killed, have the right to compensation, and in many cases would receive larger amounts than can be claimed under the act. And the cost of that compensation would be passed on to the consumer. The Compensation Act, however, eliminates litigation expensive alike to the employer and the employee, and borne in the long run by the public. This is a real saving. The workmen who come under its provisions surrender their rights to action at common law. The principle of the act is sound. The case for the desired amendments is well presented in this issue by Elmer Roper, Editor of the Alberta Labor News, and he appears to us to make out a case worthy of the fullest consideration.

\* \* \*

The flowers of the imagination, which annually spring to life in the legislative press gallery at this season of the year, respecting the imminent "break-up of the Farmer Government," are now beginning to "bloom."

\* \* \*

The gallery correspondent of the Calgary Herald complains that farmers are sensitive to newspaper articles with a "sting" to them. Under certain circumstances they are. For instance, the imaginative stories which he wrote for the Herald during the Cochrane by-election contributed materially to the U. F. A. victory and lost the Herald a considerable number of good subscribers. They have been equally sensitive to many stories of the same kind which he has written since.

\* \* \*

Politicians of a now discredited school were not sensitive to misrepresentation and unjust criticism, because this was regarded as part of the game, just as Mr. Mitchell regards it as part of the game today, expects it from the Farmers, and is probably disappointed when he does not meet with it.

\* \* \*

Those members of the Liberal party who are least anxious for political notoriety, and most anxious to consider public business from a non-partisan standpoint (and there are several of these), have taken the trouble to comment on the fairness of the reports published in this paper.

\* \* \*

"It must, of course, be accepted that the constitution of Canada does give the Governor-General-in-Council an un-

qualified power to disallow a Provincial statute—in this our constitution differs from that of Australia."—The Provincial Treasurer, in the budget debate last week.

"All the defiance Mr. Reid is hurling will be of no effect if the Federal Government has the right to interfere in regard to the Mineral Rights Tax; it is simply wasted if the Federal Government does not possess this right."—Lethbridge Herald, March 28th.

Does this mean that the Herald has definite information that the Dominion Government, by virtue of its legal powers, will venture to interfere in this matter, and that the Herald is preparing the way for such action?

\* \* \*

Certain leading members of the Liberal party have not yet learned that dishonesty in argument does not pay, that misrepresentation as a political weapon is out of date, and that the people of this Province will no longer tolerate such palpable distortion of facts as was evidenced by these politicians during the debate on the budget.

\* \* \*

Will the Dominion Government prove powerful enough to resist the pressure which the two powerful corporations are now bringing to bear upon them, to secure the disallowance of the Mineral Rights Tax? This is a matter of great importance to the future of this Province, but the daily press of the Province, apparently, with the exception of the Lethbridge Herald, is content to remain silent. And the Herald, judging by its recent editorial, cannot be described as an enthusiastic supporter of Provincial autonomy. What has the Morning Albertan to say about this matter? We remember the time when this paper would have been less reluctant to commit itself.

\* \* \*

The Albertan was critical of Mr. Reid's budget speech, but had nothing to say about Mr. Mitchell's financial sleight-of-hand.

\* \* \*

Alex. Ross is to be commended on his handling of the Election Act in committee. The measure is one of the most important of the session. Since Mr. Boyle's first political eruption, the Assembly has settled down to the consideration of its clauses in a spirit almost free from partizanship. Suggestions from all sides of the Assembly have been welcomed.

\* \* \*

Endorsing the criticism by "The U. F. A." of members of the Liberal party who "always look on legislation from a party angle," the Albertan declares that a similar tendency has manifested itself among some members on the Government side of the Assembly. Insofar as that has occurred, it is the inevitable reaction produced by the inveterate partyism of two or three, possibly four Liberal members of the Assembly. No member of the Assembly who has frankly, and without pretense, sought to escape from the spirit of partyism, has failed to find a ready response on the Government side of the Legislature. We are confident that in no previous Assembly has this spirit been less manifest; in none has so strong a desire been shown to escape from it.

\* \* \*

Such speeches as that of Mr. Mitchell in the debate on the budget, bring discredit on the Assembly of which he is a member, and we regret that no daily paper in the Province has condemned this form of controversy as it deserves to be condemned. The speech was widely published, and is a matter of record. It contained misstatements of fact of a very serious character. Mr. Mitchell received, in the speeches of Premier Greenfield and Mr. Reid, published in this issue, the retort courteous.



# Alberta Will Resist Dominion Interference With Mineral Tax Act, States Provincial Treasurer---Will the Hands of the Clock Be Turned Back?

Reid Deals With Mitchell's Statements Regarding Provincial Finances—Assembly Discusses Estimates for Year—Election Act Amendments

(Staff Correspondence)

## Budget Amendment Rejected by the Assembly---36 to 6

George MacLachlan Presents Case For Railway Facilities in Busby-Assiniboine Country

### MONDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, March 24.—J. R. Boyle's amendment to the budget resolution, in which the Assembly was asked to express the opinion that the Government had not "adopted a policy of retrenchment sufficient to at least balance the budget for the year," was defeated today by 36 votes to 6, Mrs. Nellie McClung, Liberal (Edmonton), being absent from the division after having announced that she could not support the Liberal amendment. The amendment was supported by Messrs. Boyle, Mills, Dechene, Marshall, McLennan and Bowen, and Messrs. Cross, Mitchell and Heffernan were absent.

Premier Greenfield was the principal speaker in the debate. Others who participated were George MacLachlan, J. M. Dechene, P. M. Christophers, George Mills, A. G. Andrews, Mrs. Nellie McClung and Alex. Moore. R. G. Reid, Provincial Treasurer, adjourned the debate and will speak tomorrow.

### ONLY OBJECTED TO BY GREAT VESTED INTERESTS

In the course of a careful and detailed examination of the financial position of the Province, George MacLachlan, U.F.A. (Pembina), declared that the mineral tax, to which some Liberal members of the Assembly had raised such strong objection, affected very few interests in the Province apart from the crown, the C. P. R. and the Hudson's Bay Company. He had no means of knowing how the appeal of these great corporations against the tax might be likely to fare, unless the speeches of Mr. Boyle and some of his supporters, who were so strongly opposed to it, and declared confidently that it would be disallowed, formed a fair criterion. This brought from Mr. Boyle, who had most strongly emphasized the possibility of disallowance, and the desirability, in his opinion, that it should not be continued, the remark that he had "no inside knowledge" in regard to the appeal.

The tax, Mr. MacLachlan contended, was just as fair as the Wild Land Tax. The wealth of the Province, in minerals, which, though its extent was as yet unknown, was undoubtedly very great indeed, should be the property of the people, and not of any special interests.

Referring to Mr. Boyle's contention

In concluding the budget debate, R. G. Reid, Provincial Treasurer, dealt with C. R. Mitchell's figures, which we discussed editorially last week. Mr. Reid, in a closely reasoned speech, challenged the right of the Federal Government to disallow the Mineral Tax Act, though the legal power of the Dominion under the B. N. A. Act was not questioned. The only active opponents of the tax are the Canadian Pacific Railway and the Hudson's Bay Company, and certain leading members of the Liberal party in the Alberta Legislature.—Editor.

that the Dominion Government would be unlikely to pay to the Province the \$240,000 mentioned in the estimates, under the Dominion Highways Subvention, the member for Pembina pointed out that the Government of which Mr. Boyle was a member had included in their estimates for 1921, an estimate for \$400,000 from this source, although at that time no preparation had been made to earn the grant, and there was no possibility of its being earned. Mr. Boyle remarked that this was a capital item, but Mr. MacLachlan, in reply, said that there was nothing in the estimates to show whether it was intended as a capital or revenue payment, and that in any event the difference would have been unimportant. It had never, said Mr. Boyle, appeared as revenue.

### A. & G. W. RAILWAY NOW IN GOOD CONDITION

Dealing with railway matters at considerable length, Mr. MacLachlan said that the Alberta and Great Waterways Railway, on which in the days of the old Government, it was dangerous to ride, was, in 1924, in better condition than the main line of the C. N. R. west of Edmonton, while the trains always ran on schedule time. In a year or two he hoped this line would be on a paying basis.

While the value of each immigrant to the country was commonly estimated at \$2,000, said the member, and the Dominion paid \$500 for each family brought in by the Canadian Colonization Association, to the extent of 200 families, nobody, apparently, had taken the trouble to place a value upon those settlers who had been in the country for years, and who, owing to unfavorable conditions, had recently been emigrating.

### MORAL OBLIGATION ON THE GOVERNMENT

Pleading for railway facilities for the people in the territory between Busby and Fort Assiniboine, Mr. MacLachlan depicted in a graphic way the deplorable condition of many of the best type of English-speaking settlers who had been

in the country for fifteen years. Nine years ago a delegation first waited on the Government of the day in connection with this matter. It was a moral obligation on the Government to give these people the branch line northwest from Busby which they desired. There was enough business between Edmonton and Westlock to warrant a daily train, and enough business along the route to ensure that there should be no loss to the Government. The Athabasca Valley was better settled today than many districts which already had railway services, and was a very fertile area.

Urging the Province to offer a prize of \$100,000 to the first company in Alberta to produce a 100,000-barrel oil well, Joseph Dechene, Liberal (Beaver River), spoke at length in support of this novel proposal. He also suggested that the Province should set aside \$500,000 for farmers who take the world's prizes in wheat growing, and win championships in cattle, butter, and other farm products. Mr. Dechene contended that all the speeches delivered in the debate had been of value.

### ANOTHER MISLEADING SLOGAN, SAYS CHRISTOPHERS

The slogan of "economy", said P. M. Christophers, Labor (Rocky Mountain), like the now discarded slogans of "Produce More", "Make the World Safe for Democracy", "Make the Country Fit for Heroes to Live In", and "Back to Normalcy", was advanced for the purpose of confusing the people, by powerful vested interests. The plea of economy was being advanced by the man whose income was derived chiefly from investments, and was not himself a worker, because the debts owing to him must be paid "somehow, somewhere, by someone." Credit, said Mr. Christophers, was the basis of the present system, which required continuous expansion in order that the surplus which the great investors could not spend on personal comforts or luxuries, might be reinvested. Mr. Christophers pointed out that the workers, using the term in no narrow sense, but including producers on the land, constituted the bulk of the consumers, and if they did not receive an adequate share of purchasing power, they could not buy, and business depression inevitably resulted.

Mr. Christophers concluded his speech by appealing to members, if they must economize, to do so at the expense of the class best able to bear it, the large investors.

### FIRST INTELLIGIBLE BUDGET STATEMENT

The budget statement presented this year by R. G. Reid, said A. G. Andrews, U. F. A. (Sedgewick), was the first which



had been prepared in such form that he could understand every detail. The budget did not balance, first on account of the adverse economic situation in Europe and the consequent lack of markets; second, because the tariff wall raised by the United States formed another economic handicap to the principal taxpayers of Alberta. Yet, despite the fact that more than half of the gold reserves of the world were now in the United States, the farmer there was in as great distress as the farmer of Alberta, if not in greater.

Mr. Andrews contended that the present system of grading grain robbed the farmer of thousands of dollars every year, and that mixing also took heavy toll from the producers. Discussing immigration, the member said the practice of inducing settlers to come, by fair means or foul, should cease. He thought the Government should inquire into the report that 30,000 C. P. R. land contract holders were considering the advisability of leaving the country, if their contracts were not readjusted.

Expressing satisfaction with the budget, Alex. Moore, U. F. A. (Cochrane), said that he did not believe in "balanced budgets." Anyone could balance a budget in the way Mr. Boyle had done, after wiping out \$400,000 representing the Mineral Rights Tax revenue, and then adding the liquor profits.

#### ECONOMIC POSITION OF FARMER REAL TROUBLE

The Assembly was wasting its time discussing mortgage legislation, said the member, when it should be providing for long term credits at reasonable rates of interest. It was not the Provincial taxation that constituted the really serious burden, but the economic position of the farmers who were struggling under heavy mortgages and carrying obligations which left nothing to meet living expenses and pay taxes. A reduction of 2 per cent. interest rates on his borrowing would enable the farmer to pay his taxes without feeling this to be a burden.

Mr. Moore suggested the levying of an excise tax on all manufactured goods receiving protection, equal to the tariff on similar goods imported, stating that this would yield a revenue of \$300,000,000, as compared to which a mere \$670,000 seemed a very small item. The member also proposed an export tax on all raw materials such as pulpwood, lumber, coal, nickel, asbestos and oil, and on No. 1 hard wheat which, under present conditions, frequently was used to improve United States flour which went into competition with our own products in the markets of the world. It would be futile, Mr. Moore thought, to place agricultural machinery on the free list, because the manufacturers, by gentlemen's agreements, could easily defeat the objects of any such amendment of the tariff.

Supporting the idea of an income tax, Mrs. McClung, Liberal (Edmonton), declared herself opposed to the amendment moved by the Liberal leader, as she did not believe that liquor profits would balance the budget. She urged Mr. Hoadley to carry on a temperance campaign in his health bulletins. Mrs. McClung reminded the Government that last year she had urged them not to cut mothers' allowances, and had suggested that salaries in excess of \$2,500 and the sessional indemnity should be reduced, rather than these allowances.

George Mills, Liberal (Athabasca), agreed with Mr. MacLachlan as to the claims of the old timers of the north for

consideration, and expressed his desire that they should get a railway through the Pembina country. Mr. Mills offered hearty congratulations to Alex. Ross, Minister of Public Works, on the Highways Bill, which he described as an excellent measure, though he would have been glad if the program had been twice as large. The member urged the extension of the A. & G. W. Railway to McMurray. Mr. Mills said he regretted that there had been some reduction of school grants, and he disliked any cut in hospital grants.

## Reid Closes Budget Debate---Estimates Are Considered

Treasurer Quotes Eminent Jurist on Rights of the Provinces to Autonomy in Legislative Matters

### TUESDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, March 25.—Closing the debate on the budget this afternoon, R. G. Reid, Provincial Treasurer, replied to the criticism of C. R. Mitchell, by quoting Mr. Mitchell's own words against himself, and by citing figures which were not challenged, to show that none of the items which the former Provincial Treasurer had added to the deficit for 1923 was justifiably included. Mr. Reid also announced the intention of the Government to resist any attempt on the part of the Dominion Government, if such attempt should be made, to interfere with the right of the Province (with the electors themselves as the only court of appeal) to impose the Minerals Tax, or adopt any similar measure. Mr. Reid pointed out that strong pressure was being exercised by the Canadian Pacific Railway and the Hudson's Bay Company to induce the Federal authorities to disallow the act, and that leading members of the Liberal party in the Provincial Assembly had opposed the measure and expressed the opinion that it would be disallowed by the Ottawa Government, which was in the hands of members of their own party.

#### ASSETS AS AGAINST PROVINCIAL LIABILITIES

Answering a question by R. C. Marshall, Liberal (Calgary), who asked whether it were not a fact that the Province possessed assets of very great value, as against its present indebtedness, Mr. Reid said that this was undoubtedly the case. In many instances full value had been received, though unfortunately of some others this could not be said.

The Government resolution on the budget was adopted by the Assembly without division.

Some time was spent in committee on the Church Union Bill. In the evening the Assembly adopted estimates for the Attorney-General's Department, covering the whole of the year's expenditures on income account, and totalling \$1,556,674. Practically no discussion of a controversial character took place on the estimates, although, shortly after 10 o'clock, C. R. Mitchell in discussing the question of the inclusion in next year's estimates, of the principal votes for expenditure under the new Liquor Act, addressed the Assembly at very great length. At 11 o'clock all of the members of the press gallery retired, Mr. Mitchell concluding

his remarks, it was understood, shortly afterwards.

#### PROVINCIAL RIGHTS AND MINERAL TAX ACT

In closing the budget debate, Mr. Reid said with reference to the Mineral Tax Act: "It is not my intention to discuss at this time, the justice or otherwise of this tax, as this is a matter which has been debated at considerable length in this debate and in previous debates this session, and also at the time that it was before the House last year. The people of this Province, through their Legislature, have decided that this is a proper tax, and for that reason I do not see that it is necessary to go into this phase of the question at further length at this time. There is, however, a much more serious question involved, the question of Provincial rights.

"Apart entirely from any discussion of the merits of the Mineral Tax Act, the application for disallowance of this act made by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company and the Hudson's Bay Company again raises a question of the most vital importance, not only to this Province, but the other Provinces of Canada, namely the right of the Dominion Government to review and disallow Provincial legislation which is admittedly *intra vires* of the Province.

#### LIBERAL ATTITUDE SOMEWHAT SURPRISING

"When this act was before the House last session, while it was opposed by the opposition, there was very little discussion—the honorable leader of the opposition contenting himself with expressing the belief that it would lead to litigation and expressing his opposition to the bill. The anxiety of both the leader of the opposition and the honorable member for Bow Valley on different occasions during this session to not only criticize the bill but to advance reasons why it should be disallowed by the Dominion Government is therefore not only very noticeable and somewhat surprising, but it also causes one to speculate whether an effort is being made to prepare the way for action by the Dominion Government who are no doubt being subjected to a great deal of pressure by the powerful interests involved. It is therefore necessary to state again in this House the position of this Government with respect to the application.

"It must, of course, be accepted that the constitution of Canada does give to the Governor-General-in-Council an unqualified power to disallow a Provincial statute. In this our constitution differs from that of Australia. It remains to be considered how this power has been interpreted and used by the Dominion Government from year to year in the development of our constitutional practice as distinguished from the strict law of the constitution.

#### PROVINCIAL AUTHORITY IN PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS

"In the early days of the Dominion, after 1867, there was a disposition to look upon the Provinces as somewhat analogous to municipalities and Provincial legislation was disallowed, not only because it was considered *ultra vires*, but also if it were considered inequitable, unsound in principle or destructive of private or contractual rights. From the early days, however, there gradually grew up a different theory of our Canadian constitutional law, based on the decision of the judicial committee of the



Privy Council. This theory may be shortly summarized as follows: That the Provinces have in relation to their subject matter and within their constitutional limits, as defined by Section 92 of the British North America Act as plenary and ample authority as a Dominion or Imperial Parliament. Their status is not municipal and their legislation within the constitutional Provincial ambit, is exclusive, supreme and absolute.

"The opinions expressed from time to time by the Privy Council were soon reflected in the changed attitude shown by the Dominion Government towards Provincial legislation, as expressed by different Ministers of Justice.

"Sir John Thompson on one occasion being satisfied that a Provincial Act was *intra vires*, refused to consider the justice or injustice of the measure.

"The Honorable Edward Blake once stated that he was not called upon to express an opinion on the alleged injustice of a certain Provincial act—that was a matter for the local Legislature.

#### THE OPINION OF A GREAT CANADIAN JURIST

"Similar statements were made by other Ministers of Justice from time to time, the most clear-cut statement of this idea being made by the Honorable Sir Allen Aylesworth. He declared, categorically, that the British North America Act did not intend that the power of disallowance should be used to annul Provincial legislation, even if the Federal Government considered such legislation unjust or oppressive or in conflict with the recognized legal principles, so long as such legislation was within the power of the Provincial Legislature. In the House of Commons he declared that he considered the true spirit of the Canadian constitution to lie in placing every Provincial Legislature within the scope of its jurisdiction upon an absolutely level footing with the Parliament of Canada and refusing to allow the Federal Government to do a work of disallowance which, if necessary at all, ought to be done by the people who elected the Provincial Legislature.

"The leader of the opposition has discussed in this House the act of the Dominion Government in disallowing the act of the Legislature of Nova Scotia last year. There were many peculiar features in the legislation in question, and it should hardly be taken as a precedent. It was an effort to override the Supreme Court of Canada and moreover, the Provincial Government had intimated that they had no strong objection to disallowance.

#### FEDERAL GOVERNMENT NOT MORAL CENSOR FOR PROVINCES

"But even under these circumstances the action of the Dominion Government in that case has aroused a great deal of comment among students of constitutional law who have raised the pertinent question that if it be granted that the Canadian Provinces are absolute and sovereign within their ambit, as defined by Section 92 of the British North America Act, as the Privy Council has declared, then a serious situation does arise if the Federal Government assumes the role of moral censor of Provincial legislation undoubtedly constitutional. In other words, if the Federal Government, through the Minister of Justice, from whose decision there is no appeal, will disallow Provincial legislation admittedly *intra vires*, on the ground

of injustice, or similar grounds, it is hard to see how the Provinces can fulfil their functions as laid down by the Judicial Committee, or find security in their organized life.

#### WILL RESIST TO UTMOST OF ITS ABILITY

"The question becomes of vastly more importance to the Province when a taxing measure is under review, and on behalf of the Provincial Government I wish to make it perfectly clear that this Government will resist to the utmost of its ability any suggestion that another Government, possibly differing politically from the Provincial Government, may assume to better appreciate and determine whether Provincial taxation measures are sound or unsound than the Provincial Government itself and the Court of Appeal from the Provincial Government—namely the electors of this Province.

#### DOMINION GOVERNMENT ITSELF COLLECTS REVENUE FROM MINERALS

"It has not been suggested in the application for disallowance that the act is *ultra vires*. If there was any question of it being *ultra vires* the Dominion Government would no doubt follow the action recently taken with respect to the Manitoba tax on Grain Futures and refer to the Supreme Court of Canada the question whether the act is, or is not, *ultra vires*. The applications are based on the alleged injustice of the act and its alleged confiscatory nature. The Government is entirely of the opinion that these objections are not sound. The act does not aim, as stated by the leader of the opposition, to take over vast areas of mineral rights. Its object simply is to place a tax on mineral rights which must be considered as property, and the act contains provisions common to all legislation with respect to the collection of such taxes. The Dominion Government itself collects revenue from mineral rights remaining in the control of the Dominion Government in the charge it makes annually for leases of such mineral rights and an analysis of the accounts of the Department of the Interior will show that the Dominion Government has collected a very large revenue from this source. The Province of British Columbia charges a flat rate of taxation on mineral rights.

#### WILL HANDS OF CLOCK BE TURNED BACK?

"As stated by the Attorney-General, in speaking on the address from the Throne, this Government waits with interest to see if the Dominion Government, with respect to this application, will follow the constitutional practice that has been so clearly defined by various Ministers of Justice, or whether, yielding to the pressure of large corporations, the hands of the clock will be turned back to the few years following 1867 and the Dominion Government will endeavor to place itself in the position of moral censor of Provincial legislation."

Dealing with the attempt of Mr. Mitchell to show that the Government, in the capitalization of the liquor stocks and the absorption of the accumulated profits into General Revenue, and in issuing a warrant to make this possible, had taken an unjustifiable course, Mr. Reid said: "I might quote from the speech of the member, as it was actually delivered in the House, not as it was printed in the

press. The member for Bow Valley said:

"Last year I dealt very largely on a clause on warrants, and I read to this House provisions of the act, and the specific and definite provision that under no circumstances should warrants be issued unless it was to meet an emergency and a crisis. Now, what was the emergency, and what was the crisis that had to be taken care of on this occasion, that thrust upon the Provincial Treasurer the necessity of resorting to a warrant to convert this liquor into revenue. The Treasury Act says that a warrant may issue when the necessity is urgent, and when it is for the immediate public good. Now, was the necessity urgent, was it necessary to convert that liquor into revenue, they had done it in 1922 and 1923 . . . but they could not get the people to drink it fast enough . . . the public good has to be served. We will borrow the money, we will meet this emergency—the emergency of saving the faces of the Government from a larger deficit than they produce at the present time. That, Mr. Speaker, is not the kind of an emergency that the Treasury Act contemplates. That is not the kind of an emergency that a warrant was issued for under former administrations of this Province or any other Province in Canada. That, Mr. Speaker, is the casual manner in which the Government of the day handles the most serious phase of their financial work, the serious work of putting through executive appropriations, the serious work of raising and spending money by order-in-council, and without the knowledge of the Legislature, and they did that, Mr. Speaker, notwithstanding the special clause of the Treasury Act, notwithstanding the fact that we have a Provincial Auditor in this country, and I, for one, cannot discover any reason why the Provincial Auditor should have allowed that warrant to have issued for such a purpose as that."

#### ANOTHER ITEM FROM THE SAME SPEECH

"The former Provincial Treasurer sets out very emphatically in the foregoing that this was not a proper occasion for the issuing of a warrant, and I do not think that I can possibly answer this better than by referring him to a previous portion of the same speech:

"Now, Mr. Speaker, we can go a little further and examine what took place with respect to the liquor profits of this country, and in my review of that I am not going to complain that the public debt of the country was increased to the extent of \$483,000, by borrowings for the purpose of capitalizing the liquor stocks which were then on the shelves of the vendor in the shape of a paid-up asset. That money was borrowed, \$483,000. The public debt was increased to that extent. The quickness of the hand deceives the eye, and at a glance, this capital money that was borrowed found its way to the Treasury in the shape of income revenue for that year, although it represents profits that had been earned in years prior to 1923. I am not, Mr. Speaker, however, going to complain about that, because the Treasurer had a right to do it. The liquor stock was there, it was paid for by profits from previous years, it was an asset which he was entitled to have in his revenue, and if he could not wait to get the revenue in the ordinary way, and get enough into the Treasury in the particular year concerned, then he was entitled to borrow the money and turn it into revenue and convert that stock of liquor into a Capital Asset instead of an Income Asset. Mr. Speaker, the thing I do complain of is this, that in 1921, the last year in which the former administration was in office, there remained on the shelves of the liquor vendor over one million dollars' worth of paid up liquor that had been paid for from profits which had accumulated prior to 1921. It was anticipated by myself, as well as my colleagues, that owing to unusual expenditures that were foreseen and were provided for by the Legislature during the session, early in 1921, because in

(Continued on page 9)



# Spirit of Independence Displayed by Western Members in Debate

By L. H. JELLIFF, M.P.

The debate on the address, while drawn out to rather tiresome lengths, was of a high order. It well merited the comment of the concluding speaker, Mr. W. F. McLean, M.P. for South York, in the following words:

"I do not think I ever heard a better debate in this House than the present one. . . . There has also been a great deal of independence shown by the honorable members from the Western Provinces, and speaking in the sense not of a critic, but one who has observed this House for a good while, I think the most encouraging thing today is the splendid spirit that is manifest in regard to political action by the men who have come to this House from the West."

This flattering summary from a veteran member of the House—a life-long Conservative—should be very gratifying to the people of the prairie Provinces.

Without entering into the minute details or comparisons of the speeches coming from the Progressive benches, probably the most effective and outstanding were those delivered by their leader, Robert Forke, M.P., and by T. W. Bird, M.P., C. W. Stewart, M.P., Alfred Speakman, M.P., and R. A. Hoey, M.P. The attitude of these speakers upon the public questions before the country, as indeed of all the Progressive speakers, should completely refute the charges of class-consciousness and sectionalism so frequently levelled at the members of that party. While emphasizing the needs of the prairie Provinces and proving the conditions existing there by indisputable facts and figures, and stressing the paramount importance of assisting agriculture so far as it can be done by reducing the cost of living and of production as the first step in the process of attaining national prosperity, these speakers uniformly expressed as well a deep sympathy and solicitude for the well-being of the country in all its varied activities. While not committing the Progressives to the Liberal program as a whole, they signified a reasonable disposition to give support to legislation proposed for this session approaching Progressive ideas of relief to the people from the burdens under which they are bending, especially as regards reduction in taxation, customs duties and administrative expenses.

## Liberal Protectionists in Gloomy Vein

In striking contrast with the broader views of the Progressives were some of the leading speeches from the Liberal side of the House by members at variance with the policy of reduction in customs duties intimated in the speech from the throne. While excellent in form and delivery, they were deeply dyed with local color, and politely dictatorial in their demands for the continuance of a large degree of protection for the commercial and manufacturing interests of the industrial centres for which they were the spokesmen. Ruin and destruction, they averred, would follow as surely as the night succeeds the day, in the wake of any reduction or removal of customs duties on the implements of production, and the people of these thriving and wealthy cities were pictured, in

This is the second article in the series by U. F. A. members of the House of Commons. The next, by E. J. Garland, M.P., will be published in the issue of April 15th.

the event of any such blow at their privileges, as forming in long, silent and tearful processions, and making their sad and mournful way across the international boundary line. One of these speakers warned the pilot of the ship of state to steer clear of the Charybdean whirlpools of free trade, and sought in the sweetly, seductive tones of the siren, to lure him to a safer passage through the tortuous channels whose waters bathed the Scyllan rock of protection.

The Conservatives caught up and re-echoed the sad refrain chanted by the mutinous sailors who had found the companionship on board the ship of state uncongenial, and the dismal chorus waxed louder, and the lights seemed to grow dimmer, and the great chamber became enshrouded in deep darkness and gloom, and there issued forth the sounds of weeping and wailing, as the standard bearers of protection pictured the dire results to follow, should vulgar hands venture to remove the bottle of lacteal fluid from the mouths of our infant industries.

## Panacea For Public Ills

The glories and beneficence of the National Policy were extolled by Conservative speakers as the panacea for the public ills. Their finely spun webs of logic, based on the condition of the woolen and textile industries, alleged to be suffering from an overdose of tariff preference to Great Britain, were rudely brushed aside by the coarse brooms of the prairie sweepers. When they came to grips on the problems of wheat production and world marketing, they became involved in great difficulties and beat a hasty retreat within the protecting walls of the home markets, which appear about as nearly capable of absorbing the surplus products of the prairie Provinces as the Home Bank does of meeting the obligations to its depositors. They impressed one as would a man walking in solitude, enrobed in a monologue, endeavoring by intricate and ingenious reasoning to create in himself a state of auto-intoxication wherein he kidded himself into the belief that the more he paid for a thing the less it cost him.

The Conservative arguments on economic lines were well answered by the Progressive speakers, supplemented by the brilliant and masterly address of Andrew McMaster, M.P. for Brome, the leading exponent of free trade in the House.

One of the great speeches of the debate was that of the Minister of Justice, the Hon. Ernest LaPointe. Mr. LaPointe was in fine form. His catching wit and humor and his flights of eloquence charmed the house. A considerable portion of his address was devoted to a vigorous answer to the criticisms of the press and the opposition as to the policies and acts of administration. Some of his clever retorts and utterances were worthy of perpetuation as political classics.

## Ladner on Banking System

Worthy of special note also and coming as a refreshing change from the discussion

on the tariff, was the excellent address on the last night of the debate by L. J. Ladner, M. P. for South Vancouver, in which he dealt with the banking system, its defects and inadequacy, in a forcible and comprehensive manner, and suggested changes which he averred would better adapt it to the urgent requirements of the country.

The debate was marred at times by vehement attacks and recriminations of a political nature growing out of the result of the by-elections in the east. These were interesting only as they exposed to the public view the election methods of the old parties and their evil effects on the purity of elections.

In the course of the debate an amendment was presented by Donald Sutherland, M.P. for South Oxford. The amendment was seldom referred to by the speakers and was merely regarded as a means of testing the confidence of the House in the present administration.

The fuse of discussion finally burned out on the night of March 18th, and the House divided on the amendment. It was negatived by the significant and record vote of 46 yeas and 167 nays, the Conservatives standing solidly for the amendment and the Liberals, Progressives, Independents and Labor members voting unanimously against it.

The galleries were well filled with interested spectators come to witness the close of the debate, although the outcome had been fairly certain for some days previously.

The speech from the throne out of the way, Parliament has settled down to its regular grind on resolutions, bills and estimates.

Although I have fallen short perhaps of an exhaustive account of the events of the session up to date, I do not feel disposed to proceed further to the exhaustion of the patience of your readers.

## Lay Strong Emphasis on Value of Local Co-operative Work

Many Locals Report That This Is Largely Responsible for Expansion in Membership

Many of the Locals which are reporting expansion in membership, in letters received by "The U. F. A." from week to week, lay strong emphasis on the value of such local activities as co-operative trading and purchasing of staples, and the development of the spirit of co-operation in matters in which members themselves can take a direct and highly practical part.

One of these, Ardenville Local, are out for a 100 per cent. membership for 1924, according to a letter received from J. M. Shield, the secretary. They have already passed the 90 per cent. mark, and the others have promised to join the Local. Some co-operative buying of such staples as fence posts and formaldehyde has effected a saving for the members. "This Local," says Mr. Shield, "is anxiously looking forward to the time when the egg and poultry pool will be established; we expect all the wheat from here will go through the Wheat Pool next fall. Great confidence is placed in our President, Mr. Wood, also the management of our 'U. F. A.'; from that we get all news of what our farmers' Government is doing for us in Edmonton."



# Actual Reduction in Cost of Government Services One Million Dollars

Premier Greenfield Examines Provincial Finances—Declares Critics Have No Practical Suggestions to Offer

I desire to congratulate the Provincial Treasurer on his first budget speech. It is a clear business-like presentation of the finances of the Province.

It was interesting to note the comparatively moderate tone adopted by the former Provincial Treasurer (Mr. Mitchell) in his criticism of the budget. The honorable gentleman labored hard, but I am afraid that in his heart he realized that it was a difficult matter to find any serious fault with the budget as brought down.

## NO PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS FROM FINANCIAL CRITICS

The honorable leader of the opposition a few days ago moved a resolution in this House to the effect that the Supplementary Revenue Tax should be discontinued. I naturally expected to receive some practical suggestions from the financial critic of the opposition as to how this should be done. No practical suggestion was offered. And no one knows better than the former Provincial Treasurer knows, even if the leader of the opposition does not know it, that the resolution was impracticable, and that the abolition of the Supplementary Revenue Tax is not possible.

The member for Bow Valley knew the financial position of the Province when he ceased to be Provincial Treasurer and I have no doubt that he is grateful indeed to the electorate of this Province for placing him in a position where he was not to be responsible for working the Province out of the difficult financial position in which he and his colleagues left it.

## NO REDUCTION IN TAXES IN NEAR FUTURE

We hear a good deal in these days from people with very good intentions, but with only a superficial knowledge of the situation, about reducing Government expenditures to the point where it will be possible to reduce taxation. This Government has reduced expenditures, as no previous Government in this Province ever did; but he would be an optimist indeed, who, knowing conditions in this new Province, and having a close knowledge of Provincial finances, would prophecy a reduction in taxation in the near future.

Mr. Marshall, speaking in this debate, said the people are saying to the Government: "Give us better business!" We are doing it.

The criticism of the budget has been more amusing than instructive, showing evidence of being addressed to the press gallery in an endeavor to capitalize the present agitation for decreased taxation, rather than an intelligent effort to assist.

The member for Bow Valley sees a deficit looming in the offing larger than last year's deficit. He made a similar prophecy in the budget debate last year, and since that time, but the actual was below the estimated deficit by \$439,305.41. At one time I believe he ex-

Certain untrue statements made by C. R. Mitchell in the budget debate (It is not now denied that these statements were incorrect) were published in the last issue of "The U. F. A." Mr. Mitchell declared that the claim that substantial reductions in the cost of administration had been made was incorrect. Mr. Greenfield showed that the reduction in these expenditures had been approximately one million dollars since the U. F. A. Government came into office. The Premier's speech is printed below.

pressed the opinion that the deficit for 1923 would be nearly two million.

On the other hand, the leader of the opposition expresses the opinion that we will get enough out of the liquor profits in 1924 to justify the elimination of the Supplementary Revenue Tax. So that he is of the opinion that if the Supplementary Revenue Tax is continued, we will have a very large surplus in 1924.

## NO RAILWAY PROBLEM IN SASKATCHEWAN

Again my honorable friend from Calgary (Mr. Davidson) sees nothing but gloom and no promise that the budget will be balanced. He compared the budget of this Province with that of the Province of Saskatchewan. That is not a reasonable comparison at all. The Province of Saskatchewan has no railway problem—no expenditure in connection with railways. Our net loss last year was as follows, including interest on debentures, interest on advances for construction and defaulted interest:

A. & G. W. ....	\$ 639,000
L. & N. W. ....	91,000
1922, E. D. & B. C. ....	548,000
Central Canada .....	276,000

\$1,554,000

The Province of Saskatchewan has no rural telephone system. The honorable gentleman then went on to say that we could have no progressive labor and social legislation till the budget was balanced. When we reach the point where the budget is balanced if we immediately expand into progressive labor and social legislation it would not remain balanced very long.

## URGES ECONOMY AND INCREASED SPENDING SIMULTANEOUSLY

My friend Mr. Davidson went on to say that health progress and health legislation ended in 1921. The large expansion and development and increased expenditure was curtailed. If it had not been, our deficits would have been still greater. He complains again that we should not have closed the Agricultural Schools. To open them will simply mean a larger deficit. The honorable gentleman urges economy and increased expenditure at the same time.

The leader of the opposition was anxious to impress upon me that I had not the courage to reduce expenditure; that it was my duty to see that it was done; that he advised me in the budget

debate of last year to do so; but that I had not taken his advice.

My answer to that is: That expenditures have been reduced very considerably, and that the Government would not be well advised to pay serious attention to the advice of gentlemen who desire to advise this Government how to do the thing they utterly failed to do themselves.

## SERVICES COST \$1,000,000 LESS THAN IN 1921

The member for Bow Valley complains that the revenues of the Province are not impaired, but that the present Government are not satisfied to get along with what the old Government got along with. My answer to that is, that the amount of money expended by this Government, less the fixed charges on public debt, that is to say, the amount of revenue expended for actual services rendered to the people in 1921 was \$8,503,000; in 1923 it was \$7,554,000. This fact the honorable member for Wainwright pointed out in his speech.

When the Farmers' Government took office in August, 1921, there were approximately 1,200 employees in the Civil Service, not including institutions and Railways and Telephones Departments. In February, 1924, there were approximately 1,000 employees, a reduction of 200 employees. In August, 1921, the Telephone Department employed 1,015 persons; in December, 1923, this Department employed 676, the total reduction being 539.

Since August, 1921, the payroll of ordinary departments has been reduced by approximately \$288,453 per year; the Telephone Department payroll has been reduced by \$432,109.56; the Railway Department payroll has been reduced by \$20,000, a total reduction per year of \$740,562.56. These figures do not include institutions, such as Hospital for Insane, Gaols, etc.

A comparative statement of costs of the general election, 1921, and the liquor plebiscite, 1923, shows that the cost of general election, 1921 (175,980 votes cast), was \$248,023; and the cost of liquor plebiscite, 1923 (169,613 votes cast), was \$126,794.25—a difference of \$121,228.75.

Mr. Greenfield submitted to the Assembly the following comparative statement of the costs of general election, 1921, and plebiscite, 1923, in a number of the constituencies:

	1921	1923	Difference
Acadia .....	\$ 5,402.35	\$3,263.02	\$2,139.33
Athabasca .....	5,548.73	1,501.98	4,046.75
Beaver River ...	7,158.47	2,508.40	4,650.07
Bow Valley ....	3,680.25	1,528.60	2,151.65
Calgary .....	12,368.40	7,695.17	4,673.23
Clearwater .....	2,452.82	1,238.51	1,214.31
Edmonton .....	18,130.11	9,686.69	8,443.42
Lethbridge .....	2,048.40	1,551.56	496.84

## TO BUY APPLES CO-OPERATIVELY

Increase of membership and good attendance at meetings are reported by Rosyth Local, a debate on the Free Trade question proving an exceptionally good drawing card. A beginning will be made in co-operative buying by the purchase of apples in large quantities; this it is hoped will stimulate interest in co-operation.

## EXPECTS TO TREBLE MEMBERSHIP

Maughan Local, though small, has doubled its membership in a recent drive, and the drive workers have promises from enough more members to treble last year's numbers.



## REID CLOSES BUDGET DEBATE— ASSEMBLY PASSES ESTIMATES

(Continued from page 6)

that year there was a large increase in the expenditure necessary on General Revenue Account; it was anticipated that that revenue would be available during that year, but through the fortuitous circumstances of the occasion, the Government of the day retired from office.

### STOCKS GREATLY IN EXCESS OF REQUIREMENTS

"This, Mr. Speaker, is a complete answer, as it would have been impossible to get this money into general revenue account, without the issuing of a warrant, which procedure is so strongly condemned in the first paragraph I quoted. What are the facts in connection with this matter? When this Government assumed office, the stocks of liquor were very much in excess of what was required for the conducting of this business under prohibitory laws which were on the statute books at that time. I take it that there is no question as to the advisability of capitalizing these liquor stocks on a reasonable basis, and it has always been our intention that they should be so capitalized, when the stocks have been reduced to what we considered to be the proper size. This did become the case, for the first time, in the latter end of last year, and that time having arrived there was nothing for us to do but to put our intentions into effect. It might have been delayed until this year, but why should it be delayed? It must be the case that at whatever time these transactions were effected, it would have an effect on the current finances of the Province of that year.

### NO EFFECT WHATEVER ON THE DEFICIT

"In some reference which was made to the Superannuation Act, and the disposal of these funds by the Government, there is an implication that there might possibly be something irregular in the way in which these funds are being taken care of. I might simply state that Section 5 of this act distinctly states that these monies shall be paid 'into a fund to be known as the Superannuation Fund, and to be accounted for as part of the General Revenue Fund.' I might say that this is an absolutely similar provision to that which obtains in all other Superannuation Acts, that I have been able to trace. From the very nature of things it is essential that a portion of this fund should be in a fluid condition, so that the calls made upon the fund can be met at any time, and for that reason the disposal which is made in the act, appears to me to be the only sound way of dealing with it. It should be pointed out quite definitely that these monies are not taken into current revenue, but that the Superannuation Fund, although it is a part of the General Revenue Fund, is taken in as capital and so could not possibly have any effect on the deficit.

### MEMBER "MISINFORMED" ON AGRICULTURAL AIDS GRANT

"Now, in connection with the Agricultural Aids grants from Ottawa, it is unfortunate that the honorable member is so grievously misinformed on this matter. I do not intend to dwell on this, as I feel sure that he already realizes that he was misinformed. I simply wish to state, definitely, that these monies have always been kept in a separate bank account, that they have not been received into General Revenue, that this money is still held in the manner in which it always has been, and that no portion of it has been absorbed into the General Revenue of the Province, and for that reason that it could not possibly have any effect on the deficit of the past year.

### ANSWERS BOYLE'S REMARK ON HIGHWAYS ESTIMATES

"The Dominion of Canada Subvention under the Highways Act, of \$240,000 which has been placed in Revenue, Income Account, has been a matter of some discussion in the Assembly.

"Under the provisions of the act and the regulations thereto, the disposal of any grants earned is entirely within the jurisdiction of the Province. No restriction or condition of any kind is imposed, farther than that the

Province is obliged to maintain the roads constructed under the act for all time.

"It is a matter of fact that a large proportion of monies expended for market roads in the past has been charged to capital account, and while similar action would have been justifiable this year, we find that the \$500,000 appearing in the estimates for expenditure in this way, is charged to income account. If any good cause were, to be served by so doing—and I fail to see that there would—the Dominion Subvention might be earmarked for expenditure on this particular vote.

### PRACTICE IS THE SAME IN SASKATCHEWAN

"The fact that the Province of Saskatchewan has seen fit to take these monies into Income Revenue is sufficient to indicate that such action has the sanction of precedent.

### NEVER HAS BEEN ANY SUCH FUND

"The revenues from auto licenses are not, and never have been placed in a special fund, but are placed in the General Revenue Fund of the Province. There was a less amount spent than received from that source in 1918, 1919, 1922 and 1923, and the surplus was used in these four years to assist in meeting the general expenditure. We have no apology to make for using the revenues from auto licenses in this way, and neither have I heard the honorable gentleman apologize for doing the same thing in 1918 and 1919. The estimates will disclose that more money will be spent this year on roads, bridges and ferries than will be received from auto licenses. The impression which the member for Bow Valley wished to create was that a special fund was in existence, and that we depleted that fund to help balance the budget. Let me again reiterate there is no such fund, and there never was such a fund.

### CAPITAL OUTLAY AND ASSETS CREATED

"Now, dealing with the statement which is made by the leader of the opposition that the capital debt of this Province from the end of 1921 to the end of 1924 would be increased by approximately \$20,000,000, I have no fault to find with the figure which he states, although it is not at all certain that this total amount will be reached by the end of 1924, for although provision is made in the estimates for this amount, it may be possible that it might not all be required. I am not, however, going to find any fault with the figure, but intend to show you to what extent this is caused by commitments which have been made by the previous Government. I also wish to make some analysis of this expenditure to show that the statement which was made at that time by the honorable gentleman, that this Government would have practically nothing to show for this \$20,000,000 which would be expended. I think the honorable gentleman said that practically the only thing which we would have to show would be the mental hospital at Oliver.

"Now, in considering the capital borrowings since the 1st of January, 1922, I find that approximately \$7,000,000 was expended on account of commitments of the former Government, and this includes, among other things, the borrowings to pay defaulted interest on Provincial railways, \$2,258,087.81, to which must be added for the same purpose for the Central Canada Railway \$303,849.79. Another large item is that of commitments on public buildings started by the previous Government, amounting in all to \$971,221.36. In addition to this there is an improvement on railway extension and commitments of the previous administration re conditioning, maintenance, and operation of Provincial railways, \$1,298,700.90. For seed grain and livestock notes commitments of the past, \$1,752,225.66. To this must be added other figures which total the amount which I have mentioned.

### WHAT THERE IS TO SHOW FOR NEW EXPENDITURES

"Now, if we consider the second statement made by the leader of the opposition that this Government has nothing to show for the capital expenditures which have been made, with the exception which I mention, and we refer back to these items which I

have set out; we find that the expenditure on public buildings is almost \$1,000,000. We have distinctly something to show for that expenditure. In the matter of railway extensions surely it cannot be contended that we have nothing to show for this expenditure, and if we pass from this to the expenditures which have been made on the commitments of the present Government, we find that under the classification of bridges, that in 1922, 1923 and estimated for 1924, there is a total amount expended of \$1,355,460.24. Main highways \$1,033,926.75. Surveys and compensation for lands \$216,830.09. Advances to school districts \$416,315.73. Grasshopper destruction \$679,666.24. Railways extension authorized by the present Government \$1,165,659.03. Provincial police buildings \$89,649.70. Now, surely Mr. Speaker, it cannot be contended that for these items of expenditure which I have mentioned, and the various sums that have been expended under these headings that the Province has nothing to show for that expenditure!"

### PASS ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S ESTIMATES OF \$1,556,674

Practically the whole of the evening sitting was spent in discussion of the estimates of the Attorney-General's Department, and these, totalling \$1,556,674, were finally passed in committee of supply.

Referring to an item of \$30,000 for "incidental justice", Mr. Brownlee explained that the Province must be prepared to decide what course to follow in the event of the C. P. R. not taking up the lease on Provincially owned railways which they are operating. The whole question of the Edmonton, Dunvegan and British Columbia railway must be inquired into, and it might be necessary to engage legal talent of the very highest type to deal with the matters of law involved. In view of these contingencies it was possible that the vote might be overspent.

### MEN AND WOMEN MAGISTRATES

Mrs. McClung called attention to the fact that the salaries of women magistrates are lower than those of men, and asked that they be given equal payment for similar classes of work. Expressing full appreciation of the desirability of equal pay for equal work, Mr. Brownlee said that it was doubtful whether the time of the women magistrates was as fully taken up by their duties as was that of the men, at the present time, as they dealt, for the most part, with special classes of cases. The men had to give almost all their time to their work.

Discussing the votes of \$78,910 for the land titles office at Edmonton, and \$80,335 for the land titles office at Calgary, C. W. Cross, Liberal (Edmonton), said that fees charged for land transfers were too high, and asked that they be reduced.

J. R. Boyle, speaking on the vote of \$87,600 for reformatory and children's protection, suggested that the work of inspection of foster homes should be carried on by school inspectors, thus effecting an economy. The whole question of child survey, said Mr. Brownlee, was now under review, and the subject of consolidation would be considered this year. Certain use was now made of officials of the Department of Education. The possibility of abandoning the policy of sending boys out of the Province to Portage la Prairie was also under consideration. Mrs. McClung remarked that there was now no place to which a girl who might have taken a false step might be sent. The consequent tendency of magistrates was to allow such cases to be dismissed, and the girls again exposed to temptation, rather than to send them to prison.

The whole problem of Mothers' Allowances must be very carefully considered with a view to future policy, said Mr. Brownlee, in reference to the vote of \$250,000 for this purpose. The intention of the act must be carried out, but there was a tendency for the claims to mount to a high figure. The question whether a mother of one child should receive the allowance must be carefully examined. The problem of the deserted wife, referred to by Mr. Carson, Mr. Brownlee said was especially difficult, as there were people who would deliberately separate in order that the wife might obtain an allowance.



### OFFER TO TAKE OVER ALL POLICE RESPONSIBILITY

The vote for the Provincial Police totalled \$488,733, as compared with \$499,876.82 spent last year. The Provincial superintendent, Mr. Brownlee said, had recommended that the force be increased by at least 10 officers. Judging by his own experience while Attorney-General, Mr. Cross said that he did not think that there was ever any need for an increase in strength during a coal strike. Mr. Brownlee said that in those days the R. N. W. M. P. exercised jurisdiction in the Province, but now the whole responsibility was placed on the Provincial Police, and last year, when the strength of the R.C.M.P. in the Province was approximately the same as that of the Provincial force, the Ottawa Government declined to allow this force to be used for strike duty. The force today had only two functions—international work at the boundary, and work in the far north. The Province was prepared to take over the whole responsibility if the Dominion Government would make a grant of \$100,000 for police purposes.

F. J. White, Labor (Calgary), expressed a hope that judgment would always be used, lest any partisan magistrate should seek to use the police to the advantage of the employers. This, said Mr. Brownlee, would be done. In one case which had occurred, a magistrate who, it was found, was in the employ of a coal company, had been forbidden to act. The police would never be used to encourage trouble.

### FULL REPORT ON LIQUOR ADMINISTRATION

C. R. Mitchell thought that the main items of the liquor expenditure should be voted by the Assembly. This, it was pointed out, had never been done in the past, but Mr. Reid said he would seriously consider its inclusion in next year's estimates. Mr. Brownlee said that a full report, giving details of every expenditure, would be brought down every year by the Commission, and laid on the table of the Assembly, thus giving much more information than was given in regard to any other item of Government. In Manitoba and British Columbia the same plan was followed. He could see no objection, however, to the inclusion of the vote for the Commission in the estimates in the ordinary way, although this had never been done in the past. Discussing financing, he said that it would probably be decided that the Government should arrange a line of credit for the Commission with one of the banks, and that the Commission should carry on its financing transactions itself.

Not satisfied with these assurances, Mr. Mitchell harangued the Assembly at great length, remarking that he had had time for reflection since he went out of office, and that some things which had not been done by the former Government, should be done by this. Before the close of his address the press gallery was empty.

Among the items in the estimates were \$11,750 for the Minister's office; \$85,370.02 for Supreme and District Courts; \$77,419.98 for sheriffs and deputy and acting sheriffs; \$14,000 for judges of the District Courts; \$27,570 for official court reporters; \$25,000 for agents of the Attorney-General; \$41,000 for witnesses, jurors and interpreters; \$45,545 for police magistrates; \$75,000 for payment of fines to cities, towns and villages; \$22,000 for expenditures under the Debt Adjustment Act.

## Like Peon Camps of Mexico, Says Member

Brownlee Promises to Make Representations to Ottawa in Regard to Elimination of "Closed Towns"—Assembly Consider Agricultural Estimates

### WEDNESDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, March 26.—Declaring that certain of the coal camps in Alberta, where the companies maintained "closed towns", admitting or excluding from the streets of the towns whomsoever they would, resembled the camps in which Mexican peons were herded together, P. M. Christophers,

Labor member for Rocky Mountain, and himself a miner who has been active in organization work, this afternoon moved an amendment to a railway bill promoted by the Medicine Lake Collieries Ltd., to provide that free ingress and egress to the streets of the coal town should be given to all persons. Mr. Christophers withdrew his amendment in view of assurances received from Mr. Brownlee that he would take this matter up with the Ottawa Government, by whom the coal lands were leased, with a view to the removal of the grievance complained of, a grievance which the Attorney-General heartily desired to see removed.

Mr. Brownlee doubted whether the particular amendment offered would be effective for the purpose aimed at, and called attention to the difficulties which the Province would experience in seeking to interfere with the use of property leased by the Dominion. "The honorable member for Rocky Mountain is on sound ground in taking objection to closed camps," said Mr. Brownlee.

### INJUNCTION AGAINST UNION ORGANIZER

Mr. Christophers called attention to the granting of an injunction to restrain Robert Livett, president of District 18, United Mine Workers of America, from entering upon certain property. The injunction was granted, said Mr. Brownlee, by a supreme court judge, appointed by the Dominion Government, with whom the Province did not interfere.

Entire sympathy with Mr. Christophers' aims was expressed by R. C. Marshall, Liberal (Calgary), who remarked, however, that the amendment hardly seemed to meet the case effectively. C. W. Cross, Liberal (Edmonton), thought the proper procedure would be for the Provincial Government to make representations to the Dominion, in opposition to all closed camps, and believed that it might be possible to introduce suitable legislation.

A great part of today's sittings was devoted to consideration in committee of the Lethbridge, Calgary and Medicine Hat charter amendments.

The evening sitting was spent in consideration and passing of the estimates of the Department of Agriculture, totalling \$590,843 on income account. George Hoadley announced that he expected to go to the Empire Exhibition in London this year to represent the Province.

### SHIELD ON DESTRUCTION OF NOXIOUS WEEDS

An important discussion took place on the item of \$25,000 for destruction of noxious weeds, W. H. Shield, U. F. A. (Macleod), contending that few tangible results were obtained from the present system of weed control. Weeds, he believed, could never be controlled by police methods. A combined system of cultural work on the land, and crop rotations, was necessary. In Manitoba a serious situation had arisen under a plan of control similar to ours, which might check infestation for a time, but inevitably, sooner or later, permitted the weeds to get the upper hand. As the inspector worked for only a brief period in each season, little could be accomplished towards eradication. Were the monies now spent by the Province and municipalities for weed inspection used for the payment of agricultural agents the results would be more satisfactory. Four or five municipalities might combine to employ a man the year round, who would include weed control in the ordinary routine of his duties.

In respect to each variety of weed, there appeared to be some crop in the nature of a "smother" crop. Canada thistles could be most effectively controlled by summerfallow combined with rotation in which fall rye largely figured. This grain, as well as brome, barley, sweet clover and alfalfa used in rotation, would be of great assistance in controlling weeds. A man temporarily appointed could not institute a "follow up" control of this kind. Mr. Shield said, however, that the present vote was necessary, until a more satisfactory plan could be devised.

Discussing the vote of \$72,650 under the Agricultural Societies Act (last year's expenditure was \$96,801.87), Mr. Hoadley said

the Department had decided to give only essential prizes, and in consequence the fairs were now in better condition. Messrs. Hoadley, Mitchell and W. M. Davidson, in speaking on the vote of \$5,500 for statistics, and \$12,900 for the Publicity Commissioner's office, spoke in terms of high praise of the work of C. G. Groff, the Commissioner. Mr. Davidson remarked that Mr. Groff, whom he knew personally, was capable of doing much more effective work than was now possible, largely owing to lack of adequate funds. Mr. Reid said that in equalization of assessments one way of assisting toward the establishment of equitable assessments was found in the rainfall statistics. A kind of "Book of Knowledge" of the various localities, giving particulars of soil and other conditions, was, said Mr. Hoadley, now being compiled.

### VALUE OF THE SCHOOLS OF AGRICULTURE

Mr. Hoadley said that the economic conditions were responsible, in his opinion, for the reduction of attendance at schools of agriculture. He believed that these schools, properly conducted, could do more for agriculture than the Faculty of Agriculture at the University. The vote for these schools is \$55,283, as compared with \$34,526.75 spent in 1923. Speaking of school fairs, Mr. Hoadley said these were growing so rapidly in number and importance that they would soon have to be amalgamated with the agricultural societies.

Speaking on the vote of \$10,000 for Women's Home Bureau Service, J. C. Buckley, U. F. A. (Gleichen), said he did not think any expenditure brought better returns, but referred to a case in which, owing to lack of co-operation between two organizations, the same lecture was given in the same locality twice. Mr. Mitchell asked where the vote was for the Women's Institute conventions.

This, said Mr. Hoadley, had been dispensed with by vote of the Institutes themselves. "As a representative, though unofficially, of the Institutes," Mrs. McClung declared, "I can say that we are well satisfied, and entertain not the slightest feeling of resentment."

Among items in the estimates were \$10,000 for the Minister's office; \$38,135 for the general office; \$19,350 for the Livestock Encouragement Act; \$29,450 for stock inspection; \$33,000 for protection of game; \$60,000 to promote and encourage dairy work; \$52,850 for operation of Provincial farms; \$31,600 to promote and encourage poultry industry and egg and poultry marketing service; \$11,700 for operation of the Oliver farm; \$20,000 for district agriculturists and boys' and girls' club work; and \$500 for "inspection of aparies"—"a very small sum", as J. C. Bowen wittily remarked, "for such a dangerous job."

## Bill to Amend the Mines Act is Lost

In View of Appointment of Commission to Inquire Into Coal Industry—Boyle on Half Breed Scrip Case

### THURSDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, March 27.—A bill to amend the Mines Act, introduced by P. M. Christophers, Labor member for Rocky Mountain, was rejected on second reading today by a vote of 32 to 16, after Premier Greenfield had expressed his opposition to the measure, not on principle, but on the ground that, in view of the forthcoming inquiry by Commission into every phase of the industry, it was advisable to postpone action until evidence had been brought before the Commission. The amendments provided, first, for payment of miners on the basis of weight rather than measurement (Mr. Christophers declared that under the measurement system the miner did not receive full payment for his work, losing nine cents a ton), and secondly, to give the miners the right to choose their own "check weigher," whose duty it was to check up the weighing by the companies' own men. Whether the



price was too high or not, said Mr. Christophers, was a matter for adjustment in the miners' agreements with the operators, but the miner should be assured that he would get full pay for all his work.

#### WILL FIGHT OUT MATTER ON INDUSTRIAL FIELD

"If the bill is defeated," said Mr. Christophers, "you will in practice advise us to go back and fight this matter out on the industrial field—and when the miners, having failed to obtain redress by the usual constitutional channels, resort to the only method left to them, I trust that you will bear us no ill-will if we find it necessary to strike." After the result was announced Mr. Christophers said, "We entertain no resentment; we have been trying to get this change for years, however, and now we shall fight to beat the band."

The amendments asked for had been brought before the former Government years ago, and Mr. Mitchell announced that the former Government had had the matter under consideration "time and time again." In this division the Liberals lined up almost solidly in support of Mr. Christophers' bill, provoking the remark from "Archie" Matheson that "politics makes strange bedfellows."

Mr. Cross said that Mr. Christophers' first amendment seemed only fair and proper; the second had been contentious, but he thought a check weigher nominated by the miners would be the solution. F. J. White, Labor (Calgary), regretted exceedingly the decision of the Premier, who had announced that he had "consulted with the operators" in connection with the matter.

Premier Greenfield: "I have consulted with the miners a good deal oftener than with the operators."

The U. F. A. members, Mr. White remarked, had been elected to see that equal justice was done to all. If only one man was being short paid, by under-measurement, (it was admitted that only a few mines were affected), it was the duty of the Legislature to rectify this grievance. W. G. Johnston, Labor (Medicine Hat), also spoke in support of the bill.

J. R. Boyle said he was not qualified to express an opinion on the merits of the case, and suggested that the bill be given second reading and referred to the Agricultural Committee, which is a committee of the whole Assembly, while W. M. Davidson believed that the miners had made out a case.

In view of the pending appointment of the Commission, Mr. Hoadley thought it would be unreasonable to refer this matter to the committee.

The subject matter had many times been before the Assembly in years past, before the advent of the present Government, said W. H. Shield, U. F. A. (Macleod). It seemed, therefore, advisable to delay a little longer until the Commission could report.

"At all times my sympathies are with the Labor people," declared Donald Cameron, U. F. A. (Innisfail), "but having in mind the fact that an investigation has been promised, I shall vote against second reading at this time." Mrs. McClung remarked that Commissions were slow moving bodies, and if an injustice were being done, it should be rectified now. It was hard to come to a decision on a matter on which she realized she had insufficient knowledge, but Mr. Christophers' statement that the miners wished to remedy their grievances by constitutional means strongly appealed to her. J. W. Heffernan, Liberal (Edmonton), said he did not believe in Government by Commission, while R. C. Marshall, who was convinced that the Premier was entirely sincere in the manner in which he wished to approach the problem, yet felt it would be worth while to send the bill to committee.

The member for Rocky Mountain, thought Mr. Matheson, had followed an unusual course in first asking for a Commission, and then bringing in these amendments, and laying particular stress on them. The proposals seemed fair, as far as he could judge. He was not going to express "sympathy", which never filled pockets, but he thought that reference to the cumbersome committee thus late in the session would prove un-

satisfactory. Perren Baker said he was not going to vote against the principle of the bill, but he was opposed to opening the question at this time.

"Were this to carry," said Dr. Stewart, "the whole Mines Act would be open to discussion, and we should have to go into every question affecting it, calling in the operators for their evidence."

The division was as follows, two U. F. A. members, W. C. Smith and Mr. Sparks, voting in for the bill.

For the bill: Messieurs Boyle, Mitchell, Cross, Mrs. McClung, Mills, Dechene, Marshall, Heffernan, McLennan, Bowen, Davidson, White, Christophers, W. G. Johnston, Sparks, W. C. Smith—16.

Against the bill: Messieurs Greenfield, Hoadley, Reid, V. W. Smith, Baker, Matheson, Milnes, MacLachlan, Cameron, Galbraith, Shield, Carson, Moore, Brown, Joly, Washburn, Andrews, St. Arnaud, Buckley, Farquharson, Peterson, Cook, Stringam, G. N. Johnston, Sanders, Enzenauer, Proudfoot, Conner, Fedun, Chornohus, Tobin, Dr. Stewart—32.

Mr. Brownlee announced that representatives of the B. C. Liquor Commission were in the city, going into the matter of liquor administration very closely with the Alberta authorities. It was good legislative expediency to obtain all the information that could be obtained in the matter.

#### BOYLE AND HALF BREED SCRIP CASE

J. R. Boyle made the following statement: "My attention has just been called to a statement alleged to have been made in the House of Commons by Mr. Kellner, M.P. for East Edmonton, to the effect that either the present Attorney-General or myself as former Attorney-General, had expressed the opinion that the amendment to the Criminal Code with respect to fraud regarding dealings in half breed scrip had the effect of stopping the prosecution of a case in this Province and that the Attorney-General in 1921 had expressed the opinion that the amendments to the code had the legal effect of bringing within its provisions the case of a person then sent up for trial.

"In case that Mr. Kellner was referring to me I wish to make it clear that I at no time ever expressed any such opinion. The facts are that the prosecution in question was commenced under my instructions as Attorney-General upon information laid by certain parties who claimed to be aggrieved. I retained counsel to represent the Crown, who appeared at the preliminary hearing and the party charged was sent up for trial by the magistrate to be tried at the fall sittings of the Supreme Court for the trial of criminal cases with jury. Before the time for trial arrived the Provincial elections were held and I retired from office. Counsel had up to that time instructions to proceed with the trial which were never countermanded by me.

"The case was left in exactly the same position as all other criminal prosecutions pending trial at the fall assizes.

"I have never shirked responsibility and am quite prepared to answer for any of my acts while Attorney-General, but in this particular case with respect to scrip, I left the case exactly in the same position as all other criminal cases awaiting trial and as I was no longer Attorney-General when the time came for the trial to take place, I had no responsibility whatever as to what may have occurred."

Referring to this matter Mr. Brownlee said he had never suggested that there had been anything irregular or improper in Mr. Boyle's conduct in the matter.

W. M. Davidson gave notice of motion to amend the Election Bill to provide that a writ for an election must be issued within 30 days of a vacancy occurring.

#### BOYLE PROPOSES TO ELIMINATE BOILER INSPECTION

In committee of supply on the estimates of the Public Works Department, J. R. Boyle criticized the expenditure of \$42,700 for administration of the Steam Boilers Act, and suggested that all inspectors should be discharged, only one man being retained at Edmonton. Alex. Ross called attention to

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the fact that there was a revenue of \$30,000 from this Department, and that to cut off this revenue by making the branch ineffective would save little, if anything, in expense. W. G. Johnston, who is a railway engineer, said that inspection was very much more rigid in the United States than in Alberta, that the loss of life was heavy before inspection was instituted, and had now been reduced to a minimum, while Earl Cook, U. F. A. (Pincher Creek), said that not one operator in a hundred had apparatus to test the strength of a boiler. M. J. Conner, U. F. A. (Warner), also expressed amazement at Mr. Boyle's proposal.

### THE FARM LABOR BUREAU

Discussing the item of \$102,991 for the Bureau of Labor (last year's expenditure was \$104,046.81), Mr. Ross said that 15,000 farm laborers had been sent out last year, almost twice as many as had ever been sent before. It was against the rules for any official to influence men to ask for higher wages. The railway companies last year guaranteed all men they brought out \$4 per day. Messrs. Miles, Andrews and Conner stated that in some cases the wrong class of men had been sent out. Everything possible was being done, said Mr. Ross, to eliminate this.

Frankly declaring, "So long as I can get a peg to hang an argument on against this Government I am going to do it," C. R. Mitchell called attention to items totalling \$69,026, being accounts payable in 1923, but, as stated in the estimates, not paid until 1924, and also to the fact that the hospital grants earned last year, totalling \$121,592.88, could not be paid until this.

R. G. Reld, Provincial Treasurer, pointed out that it had been impossible to pay every account accruing in one year, during that year, that this has never been done, and that the old Government had in certain cases carried immense sums of money over in this way. The carrying over of small items was inevitable, and one year balanced another. This Government was endeavoring for the future to provide that, as far as possible the commitments of each year should be paid in that year. As to the Agricultural Aids Grant, referred to by Mr. Mitchell, this had never been taken into General Revenue, and was in the bank. This was the practice in British Columbia.

While Mr. Mitchell was in the midst of a tirade against the Government upon this matter, the press gallery became virtually empty, and a member calling attention to the matter, the discussion ceased shortly afterwards, Mr. Mitchell declaring angrily that he would get what he wanted to say into the papers anyway, and, immediately after the adjournment, going up to the press gallery, and handing in his story.

## Assembly Decides to Retain the Deposit

Divides on Non-Party Lines—Government Giving Thorough Opportunity for Discussion of Act

### FRIDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, March 28.—By a vote of 22 to 19, the Legislative Assembly today decided in favor of the retention of the deposit of \$100 required of any candidate in a Provincial election, this being the amount of the deposit under the old Election Act. Alex. Ross, the Minister in charge, had proposed to abolish the deposit, on the ground that with the introduction of the preferential ballot and proportional representation its supposed former necessity was done away with, and that it would be difficult under the new system to determine what proportion of the vote cast should entitle a candidate to the return of the deposit.

### ASSEMBLY DIVIDED ON NON-PARTY LINES

The Assembly divided on non-party lines, Premier Greenfield and Messrs. Hoadley and Reld on the Treasury benches and a majority of the U. F. A. private members and Dr.

Stewart voting for the deposit, and Mr. Ross, a very considerable number of U. F. A. members, the Labor and Independent members present, and most of the Liberals voting against its inclusion in the new act. Messrs. Mills and Dechene voted for the deposit. Members of the cabinet other than those named, were absent from the Assembly.

A clause in the act which provides that in city constituencies a copy of all voters' lists shall be available at the office of the returning officer in order that all candidates may obtain copies (as they have not been obtainable in the past), was allowed to stand by Mr. Ross, after Mr. Boyle, Mr. Buckley, Mr. Washburn, Mr. Brownlee, and others, had advanced suggestions with a view to still further removing from opposition candidates the disadvantages from which they have suffered in the past. Mr. Marshall remarked that he had never spared the old Government, in connection with this matter; that in the handling of voters' lists, to the advantage of their own and to the disadvantage of opposing candidates, they "hadn't played fair at all", but he asked that no single trace of unfairness or the possibility of unfairness, should be left under the provisions of the new act.

### NOT SEEKING ADVANTAGE FOR GOVERNMENT SIDE

"We are not looking at this matter from the standpoint of advantage to one side or another," declared Mr. Brownlee, in response to suggestions from Mr. Boyle, who had pointed out that even the improvement effected by the proposed amendment left to the candidates the work of copying the lists, which in city constituencies might involve heavy expense. He asked that the Government supply the lists, possibly in rural constituencies as well. Mr. Brownlee's suggestion was that time should be taken to consider, first, whether lists could be provided to candidates in the cities, second, whether they could be provided in rural polls, where the difficulty was much greater, and third, the whole question of costs. It was desired to keep down expenses of elections to the lowest possible limit, but fairness was desired.

### HOURS OF VOTING ARE DECIDED

The Assembly, by a vote of 21 to 16, decided to extend the hours of voting in rural polls from 5 p.m., as in the original draft, to 6 p.m., and to fix the closing time in city polls at 7 p.m., instead of 8 p.m., as first provided in the bill. This decision followed an objection by Mr. Boyle that the interval of three hours, provided in the original bill, between the hours of closing in rural and in city polls, was too long, because the first results from the rural polls, when they became known in the cities, would tend to influence the city results.

### BOYLE DECLARES DEPUTY ATTORNEY-GENERAL TO BLAME

At the opening of the sitting, J. R. Boyle presented the following statement, regarding the scrip transactions referred to in the House of Commons by D. F. Kellner, M.P.:

"Since making the statement yesterday regarding the prosecution against a party in this Province with respect to a scrip transaction, the Attorney-General has shown me the file of the Department referring to this case, and I find from the correspondence and documents on the file that the crown prosecutor of Edmonton and the Deputy Attorney-General had come to the conclusion that the amendment to the criminal code had the effect of cutting out the right to proceed with this trial, and that the Deputy Minister had given instructions that the trial be not proceeded with. This was entirely without my knowledge, without my approval and without my consent.

"I gave the instructions in the first place to Mr. Hugh C. McDonald, K.C., to undertake the prosecution on behalf of the Crown. Neither the Crown prosecutor nor the Deputy Attorney-General had any instructions from me with respect to this case, but the Deputy Attorney-General knew that I had personally instructed Mr. McDonald.

"I was therefore much surprised to find from the file that the Deputy Attorney-



General had instructed Mr. Cogswell, Crown agent, to not go on with the trial and that Mr. Cogswell had notified the defence on the 11th of July that the case would not be proceeded with.

"Mr. McDonald spoke to me about it and my instructions to him were that the question as to whether or not the trial would proceed be left to my successor in office, as I did not feel that I should give instructions in the case in view of the fact that I was very shortly to retire from office and would not be Attorney-General when the time for the trial arrived.

"I was therefore exceedingly surprised to find that the question had already been decided in so far as a Deputy Minister himself might decide such questions, and without my knowledge and without my consent.

"I wish to make this statement in fairness to the present Attorney-General, because of the decision which he found had been made by the Deputy Minister prior to his taking office according to the records of the departmental files, which he no doubt assumed was the decision authorized by the Attorney-General.

"It is therefore evident that Mr. Kellner was mistaken that either myself when Attorney-General, or Mr. Brownlee after taking office, had expressed an opinion as to the interpretation of that particular amendment to the Criminal Code."

The Church Union Bill was reported for third reading after the adoption of an amendment providing that a show of hands shall be sufficient to decide in any congregation, for or against Church Union, unless a ballot is specifically called for by 25 per cent. of the persons present.

#### ELECTION DEPOSIT CONTENTIOUS QUESTION

In committee on the Election Bill, the discussion of the clause providing for the election deposit proved the most contentious. After it had been adopted S. Brown, U.F.A. (High River), moved that the deposit should not be returnable to any of the candidates, successful or unsuccessful, but should be used to assist in defraying the costs of preparing voters' lists distributed to candidates. Mr. Brown explained that he was absolutely opposed to the principle of the deposit, which he regarded as undemocratic and highly objectionable, but if the Assembly insisted on retaining it, he thought all candidates should be treated alike, and that the unsuccessful should not be penalized. The principle of the deposit was not desirable after the adoption of the preferential ballot and proportional representation, and was undemocratic. Mr. Brown's motion was defeated, and the Assembly then considered a motion by Mr. Heffernan, Liberal (Edmonton), that the deposit should be returned to every candidate who received first preference votes, in single member constituencies, equal to one-quarter the votes necessary to elect the winning candidate.

It became evident during the course of the discussion that it would be difficult to apply the principle of the deposit under the new methods of election. It might happen that the candidate who came second from the bottom on the first count, might win the election. The number of first preferences, it was pointed out, did not form a satisfactory means of deciding this matter. The committee adjourned, leaving the question undetermined.

The election deposit in a single member constituency will be returned to any candidate whose first preference votes equal 10 per cent. of the total vote polled, and in multiple member constituencies, to any candidate who received not less than one-eighth of the quota, was the final decision.

Perren Baker, Minister of Education, introduced a bill respecting areas situated along the borders of the Province.

Much discussion took place on a clause which, as redrafted, provides that a person whose name is omitted from the list, may take the oath and vote on being vouched for by an elector whose name appears on the voters' list, the word "sworn" being written after the name, and particulars of the person vouching for him being taken. Mr. Boyle and others did not think that this would be altogether satisfactory in city constituencies, and that it would be better to provide for

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**BUILDING PAPER**—Best quality.

Heavy and strong. Fully guaranteed; 400 sq. ft. per roll.

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Section farm land, 550 acres under  
cultivation, 160 acres summerfal-  
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Blackfoot Alberta

**TIMOTHY SEED, PINCHER CREEK  
NATURAL GROWN**—Prize awards,  
eleven out of twelve (all but the  
ninth) at the Western Canada Ex-  
hibition in Winnipeg last month.  
Three out of four at the Alberta  
Provincial Seed Fair in Edmonton,  
February, 1924. All grades guaran-  
teed by Dominion Government Seed  
Certificates. 1923 crop. New grown.  
Germination 98%.

No. 1 "Pincher Creek" Timothy Seed  
at \$14.00 per 100 lbs.

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No. 1 purity, not No. 1 on account  
of hulled seed, over 25%, \$12.50 per  
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No extra charge for sacks, 19x45, 10½  
oz., extra quality jute. Terms cash,  
f.o.b. Pincher Creek. Discounts for  
ton or car lots. Orders filled in ro-  
tation while supply lasts. Pincher  
Creek Co-operative Association Lim-  
ited. A marketing society of farm-  
ers, by farmers, for farmers. Pin-  
cher Creek, Alberta.

D. A. STRINGER, Manager.

## NURSERY STOCK

**WHY PLANT NURSERY STOCK** OF  
doubtful growth when you can get our  
hardy acclimated Russian Poplars, Cara-  
gana, Willows, Lilacs, Honeysuckles,  
Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries and  
Strawberries, etc. All stock grown on  
the wind-swept prairie nurseries at  
Brooks, Alberta. Satisfaction guaran-  
teed. Write Western Nursery Co., 621  
Fifth Avenue West, Calgary.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**SCOTCH COLLIE PUPS, BEAUTIES;**  
males \$10.00; females \$8.00; pedigree in-  
cluded. S. R. Northwood, Coronation,  
Alta.

**COLLIE, HULER, MALE, GOOD WATCH-**  
dog, \$7.00. Lester Currie, Viking, Alta.

**FOR SALE—3 TUBE REGENERATIVE**  
radio set in good condition, complete with  
tubes, batteries and headset. Price  
\$95.00. Apply J. E. Hawkins, Strome,  
Alberta.

**SELLING PURE MARQUIS WHEAT,** \$1.25  
bushel. Government test No. 631843,  
grade 1, 99% germination; cleaned; bags  
extra. Also Rhode Island Red eggs for  
hatching. Raspberry plants. Don Losey,  
Cassile, Alberta.

the votes to be placed in separate envelopes,  
to be subject to a court of inquiry. Mr.  
Brownlee believed there was greater danger  
of abuse in the court of inquiry system.  
Under the proposed system two persons, at  
least one of whom could be identified at his  
place of residence, would have to perjure  
themselves before a vote could be sworn  
illegally. The clause, however, was allowed  
to stand over for consideration.

The number of names necessary on a  
nomination paper was changed from 25 to 4,  
in view of the decision to require a deposit.

## SATURDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, March 29.—Progress in con-  
sideration of the estimates of the Depart-  
ment of Public Works, this morning, was  
delayed by the insistent demands of northern  
members for roads and bridges for their con-  
stituencies. Before adjournment, however,  
estimates were completed with the exception  
of capital estimates. Second reading was  
given to an act to amend the Treasury De-  
partment Act, providing for a pre-audit in-  
stead of a post-audit.

Alex. Ross, Minister of Public Works, out-  
lining the policy of the Government, said he  
was guided in making preparation for the  
year's work by the reports of the road engi-  
neers. Surveys would be made to ascertain  
the drainage required before beginning any  
road work, and sound engineering principles  
would be employed. The Government could  
only expend a certain sum on local and  
market roads, and a proportionate expendi-  
ture should be undertaken by municipalities.

Replying to questions, the Minister stated  
that a bridge over Six-Mile coulee, near  
Cardston, would be taken into consideration;  
regarding a bridge at Macleod River cross-  
ing, Mr. Ross said that the location of the  
road from Peers to Edson had not yet been  
decided upon, and that the Government  
maintained a ferry at that point.

Last year, Mr. Ross stated, more work had  
been done on main highways than ever be-  
fore; in the opening of the season graders  
had been run over 1,100 miles of road.

The contention of J. R. Boyle that 1923 was  
not a wet year led to considerable discussion  
as to roadmaking in wet and dry years.

Answering the statement of Geo. Mills,  
Athabasca, that \$11 per mile for mainte-  
nance of the Edmonton-Athabasca road was  
not enough, Mr. Ross pointed out that only  
one-half of this road was built, expenditures  
for maintenance being made only on the part  
already built. Last year \$45 per mile had  
been expended on part of this road, and in  
1922, \$22. It was the Government's intention  
to complete the road to Athabasca as soon  
as possible.

J. R. Boyle thought that the revenue from  
automobile and gasoline taxation should be  
earmarked for road construction and main-  
tenance, and would offset the estimated ex-  
penditures of \$500,000 for market and local  
roads, \$150,000 for maintenance of main  
highways, \$67,000 for bridges, and \$62,500 for  
operation of ferries. He disapproved of the  
Government policy of diverting a portion of  
those revenues to a sinking fund.

A. M. Matheson, U. F. A. (Vegreville), said  
there was as much justification for such a  
use of automobile taxes as for land or  
supplementary taxes being turned into gen-  
eral revenue. Unfortunately, financial con-  
ditions did not permit of building every road  
desired by every member.

"Who paid the greater percentage of gaso-  
line taxes—city or country?" asked Donald  
Cameron, Innisfail.

Alex. Ross, referring to the diversion of  
the automobile tax fund, quoted figures to  
show that this had been done previously; in  
the five years in which the tax had been in  
operation, it had been underspent by \$233,-  
000. In 1924, the Government would spend  
on roads and bridges \$600,000 more than  
would be received from the tax, and this  
would likely occur also in the following year.  
Interest included, there would be an expen-  
diture of 1,354,000 from current revenue on  
roads, bridges and ferries, and the total  
amount to be spent, including main high-  
ways, would be over \$2,000,000.

## Progress of the Wheat Pool Drive

While definite results cannot yet be an-  
nounced, officials of the Wheat Pool state  
that there is every reason to believe that the  
campaign will prove a very successful one.  
The flow of contracts has increased steadily,  
and receipts on Monday morning, March  
31st, equalled those of the whole of the  
previous week. Bad roads in many parts of  
the Province have delayed canvassing, and  
in many districts the campaign is just be-  
ginning. A considerable number of those  
who withdrew from the Pool last fall are  
now being reinstated.

A letter to the Wheat Pool from a south-  
ern municipality asks that payment be made  
direct to Pool members against whom liens  
are held. Previously a list of persons against  
whom there were liens was sent to the  
Wheat Pool office, but the municipality  
afterwards decided not to attempt to collect  
any part of the present Wheat Pool payment,  
as they "intend to do everything possible to  
help instead of hindering the Pool."

## ANNUAL FEEDERS' DAY

The third annual Feeders' Day at the  
University of Alberta is to be held on April  
5th. A number of feeding experiments have  
been carried on by the Animal Husbandry  
department for the past year, and as far as  
possible the animals that have been used in  
these experiments will be available for in-  
spection, and details in regard to the cost  
of the various combinations of feed, the  
relative gains made by the different lots and  
the most suitable rations, will be fully dis-  
cussed.

## CASE FOR THE AMENDMENT OF THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSA- TION ACT OF ALBERTA

(Continued from page 1)

hardships and want experienced by the  
farmers in this Province. By the same token  
the farmers of the Province sympathize with  
the desire of Labor to secure for injured  
workmen, and the dependents of workmen  
killed in industry, such compensation as will  
enable them to live in some kind of decency.  
When every authority on the subject will  
agree that the amounts provided under the  
Alberta Compensation Act are miserably in-  
adequate, surely there is no good reason why  
the proposed amendments should not go  
through the Legislature.

Since Mr. Roper's article was written, the  
despatch given below has been received from  
a representative in the press gallery in the  
Legislative Assembly, Edmonton. It should  
be explained that certain comparative figures  
for various Provinces were submitted to the  
Agricultural Committee of the Assembly last  
week. The despatch follows:

EDMONTON, March 31st.—An error was  
discovered in the figures originally submitted  
to the Legislature, showing the average com-  
pensation paid to injured workmen in Alberta  
and in other Provinces. F. J. White, M.L.A.,  
who was satisfied that these figures were in-  
correct, wired the compensation boards of  
other Provinces, to ask whether the figures  
they had submitted covered the gross payroll  
or only that portion assessable for compensa-  
tion. The replies received by Mr. White  
showed that only the figures covering the  
assessable payroll in Ontario, Manitoba and  
British Columbia had been sent in. Assum-  
ing that the figures submitted by the other  
Provinces had covered the gross payroll the  
Alberta Compensation Board had used the  
gross payroll in Alberta in presenting their  
statement of comparison to the Legislature.  
When they should have used the assessable  
payroll only, which is \$5,000,000 less than the  
gross payroll. In the average amount of com-  
pensation paid in this Province, the proper  
calculation brings the figure down to \$756 in  
Alberta, as compared with \$812.92 in Mani-  
toba and \$815.69 in Ontario.



## POULTRY AND EGGS

**FOR SALE—A FEW BRONZE TURKEY** toms from highest quality stock. \$5.00 each. Albert Stephenson, Lac Ste. Anne, Alta.

**BARRED ROCKS EXCLUSIVELY.** MY strain combines utility and exhibition qualities. 1923 Alberta laying contest, highest individual hen (288 eggs), ten pullets averaged 210 eggs. Alberta Provincial Show, 1923, all highest prizes for Barred Rocks Record of Performance classes. Hatching eggs, \$3.00 and \$5.00 per fifteen. Satisfaction guaranteed. H. Higginbotham, Calgary.

**PURE BRED ROSE COMB RHODE ISLAND** Red cockerels, good laying strain, \$3.00 each, two for \$5.00. Donald Goodbrand, Youngstown, Alberta.

**BRED TO LAY BUFF ORPINGTONS—**Pen No. 1, selected by Government poultry representative, mated with trap nested cockerel, Filbasket strain, \$2.00 for 15 eggs. Pen No. 2, mated with exceptionally good cockerel, \$1.50 for 15. These birds are real producers. Reference: G. M. Cormie, Dominion poultry representative. Mrs. P. C. Loree, Nanton, Alta.

**BRED TO LAY SINGLE AND ROSE COMB** Brown Leghorns, single comb White Barred Rocks and Rhode Island Reds, pullets and yearling hens, also cockerels, all at \$2.00 each. A. W. Sharp, Daysland, Alta.

**ROSE COMB WHITE LEGHORN COCKER-**els, \$2.00 each. John Tough, Islay, Alta.

**PURE BRED BUFF ORPINGTON COCKER-**els, \$2 each. Satisfaction assured. Mrs. J. O. Harvey, Millet, Alta.

**TURKEYS AND EGGS, \$3 DOZEN; SINGLE** comb Anconas, \$1.50 setting, from prize layers. Box 1751, Calgary.

**FOR SALE—S.C. RHODE ISLAND REDS** and Barred Plymouth Rocks; pullets and breeding males from selected stock. Pullets \$2.25 each; males \$5.00 and \$3.00 each. Day-old chicks—during April 30c each; May 25c each; June 20c each. Hatching eggs from birds with R.O.P. records over 175 eggs, \$5.00 per setting of fifteen. Three settings \$12.00. Flock matings \$2.00 per setting of fifteen, \$10.00 per hundred. C. P. R. Demonstration Farm, Strathmore, Alberta.

**BEAUTIFUL BUFF ORPINGTON COCK-**erels, pure bred, good type and color; grand laying strain. Price \$5.00 each. Neil MacFarlane, Youngstown, Alta.

**WHITE WYANDOTTE HATCHING EGGS** from heavy laying Government selected females, mated to cockerels from John S. Martin's best "Dorcas" matings, from hens with records from 200 to 267. Price \$3.00 for 15. Eggs from "Dorcas" pullets, mated to "Dorcas" cockerels. Price \$4.00 for 15. Satisfaction guaranteed. J. A. Larson, Fort Saskatchewan, Alta.

**HATCHING EGGS — ORDERS BOOKED** now. 100 for \$5.00; 50 for \$3.00. Pure bred pens headed by males from Poorman, 200-300 egg strains. White and Buff Orpingtons, Rhode Island Reds, Anconas. Mrs. Herbert Irwin, Stavelly, Alta.

**EGGS FOR HATCHING—BARRED ROCKS,** White Wyandottes, Buff Orpingtons, \$1.50. Pen Anconas, cock, eight hens, \$10.00. Pen Barred Rocks (Guild's strain) \$12.00, cockerel, eight pullets. Bronze turkey hens, \$3.00. Turkey eggs 20c each. W. G. Gunn, Irma, Alta.

**TRIO SPECKLED SUSSEX, \$10.00 TRIO.** Pencilled Wyandottes, \$8.00. Seven long distance Homer pigeons, \$5.00. Fitchett, 3512 15a Street West, Calgary.

**HATCHING EGGS — MARTIN'S WHITE** Wyandottes, \$1.00 for 15. Bronze turkey, \$5c. Toulouse geese, 35c. All from selected pure bred stock. R. Gould, Bitten Lake.

**PURE TOULOUSE GEESE AND GANDERS,** \$3.50 per 30 cents. Bronze turkeys, imported stock, 23 to 26 pounds. Gobblers \$5.00, males \$3.50. Eggs, \$2.00 setting. Box 92, Medicine Hat.

**RHODE ISLAND RED, ROSE COMB, GOV-**ernment approved pens, headed by real Red cockerels, heavy laying strain. Eggs and chicks. R. B. Jones, Gleichen, Alta.

## Classified Advertising Section

### WANT, SALE AND EXCHANGE COLUMNS

**CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS** are inserted in this section for three cents per word per insertion. Count each initial as a full word, also count each set of four figures as a full word, as for example, "A. J. Smith has 2,000 bushels of Oats for sale" contains 10 words. Be sure to give your correct name and address. Do not have any replies sent to U.F.A. Central Office. Name and address will be counted as part of the advertisement and must be paid for at the same rate. All advertisements will be classified under the heading which applies most nearly to the article advertised. Orders for classified advertisements must be accompanied by cash, and must reach us at least eight days in advance of dates of publication, which are the 1st and 15th of each month. Cancellations must also reach us eight days in advance.

Address all correspondence to "The U. F. A." Lougheed Bldg., Calgary, Alta.

**BUFF ORPINGTON COCKERELS, \$2.00—**Famous Prairie Flour Potatoes, \$1.00 selected seed. M. J. Howes & Sons, Millet, Alta.

### SEED GRAIN

**VICTOR OATS, BARK BARLEY, FIELD** peas, corn and sunflower seeds. Lowest prices. W. D. Trego, 3830 7A St. West, Calgary.

**SELLING LIBERTY HULLESS OATS, OT-**tawa 400, cleaned, per bus. 80 cents; 10 bus., \$7.00. Sacks extra. Ellerby Bros., Throne, Alta.

**SELLING SUNFLOWER SEED, GOVERN-**ment tested, ripened past four years here; better silage than late kinds; makes possible to silage crop ahead grain harvest. 100 lbs. \$12.00; 50 lbs. \$6.50; 25 lbs. \$3.50; bags free. Limited supply. Herbert Irwin, Stavelly, Alta.

**HULLESS OATS, FANNED, SACKS** extra; three cents per lb. R. H. MacDonald, Trochu, Alta.

**CLOVERLEA SEED AND STOCK FARM,** 8820 111th Street, Edmonton, offers the genuine Altaswede Red Clover seed, Alberta University strain; tested successfully seven years; recommended seeding in row 18 inches apart, 5 lbs. acre. \$1.00 pound. Dr. E. W. Allin, 8820 111th St., Edmonton.

**HULLESS OATS, 4 CENTS PER POUND.** Cloverset Farm, Edmonton.

**SELLING CHOICE SEED FLAX, GROWN** on breaking, \$2.40 per bushel, at Huxley, Alberta. Sacks included. Calvin Robinson, Wimborne, Alta.

**TIMOTHY SEED, CANADIAN GOVERN-**ment standard 2nd grade. Free of primary noxious weeds. Germination 100% in ten days. (In overlooking hulled seeds it is No. 1 for purity). Price \$13.00 per 100 lbs. A liberal discount off for club orders amounting to ten hundred lbs. or more. For quick delivery apply to Allan Carswell, the L. B. R. store, Lundbreck, Alta., who is my agent. For seed growing sow 3 lbs. to the acre. J. R. Lane, Lundbreck, Alta.

**1,700 BUSHELS GOLD RAIN OATS, 45** cents per bushel, f.o.b. Bowden. E. Gillespie, Red Lodge P.O., Alta.

### SEED POTATOES

**EIGHT VARIETIES SEED POTATOES FOR** sale, three certified. Send for price list. J. Harris, potato grower, Edberg, Alta.

**WONDERFUL PROLIFIC PRAIRIE** Flower potatoes, \$1.00 per bushel; flye \$4.00; ten \$7.00; twenty \$13.00. Yield nearly double other varieties. Why plant acre when half is all you need? Plenty moisture and cultivation yield 300 to 400 bushels per acre. Howes & Sons, Millet, Alta.

## LIVESTOCK

**1924 BOOKLET GIVES VALUABLE HINTS** and complete list of livestock and veterinary supplies, animal markers, ear tags, vaccines, medicines, instruments, etc. Write today. It's free. Winnipeg Veterinary & Breeders' Supply Co., Ltd., Calgary, Alta.

**SELLING ENTIRE HERD OF THIRTY-**five registered Aberdeen-Angus cattle, by private sale. L. McComb, Huxley, Alta.

### LUMBER, FENCE POSTS, ETC.

**GOOD FENCE POSTS, CORRAL POLES,** mine props, jackpine and spruce, dry. Harry Slobodian, Lake Louise.

**DRY WOOD CUT ANY WAY YOU WISH—**Write me for prices. John Thors, Rochfort Bridge, Alta.

**FOR SALE—TAMARAC FENCE POSTS,** standard size, 7c. Tamarac pickets, 6½ foot, 3 to 1½ inch top, 3c. Spruce corral poles, 10c.; f.o.b. Junkins, C. N. R. A. Oslund, Junkins, Alta.

**WILLOW POSTS WANTED—CARLOAD,** seven feet long, unsharpened, diameter of small end not less than 2½ inches. Quote prices to Iron Creek Local, Kenneth McPherson, Secretary, Viking, Alta.

### SWINE

**YORKSHIRES, TWO TO FOUR MONTHS.** M. J. Howes & Sons, Millet, Alta.

**SELLING REGISTERED TAMWORTH** gilts, bred to farrow May and June, \$25.00. Thomson Bros., Coronation.

**TAMWORTHS—NEW BLOOD FOR AL-**berta. Booking orders for May delivery pigs. Saskatchewan University sows bred to boar selected from Ontario grand champion herd. Government inspected and approved bacon type, \$20. Lyle's Tamworth Farm, Gleichen, Alta.

**REGISTERED YORKSHIRE WEANLINGS,** choice bacon type, March farrows, both sexes, eight weeks, \$12.00. Jos S. Thompson, Hayter, Alta.

**BOOKING ORDERS REGISTERED YORK-**shire pigs, 10 weeks, \$11.00 each. Bred sows for May farrow, \$35.00; papers free. Choice bacon type of the best strain in Canada. R. A. Meeks, Manville, Alta.

**REGISTERED YORKSHIRE BOAR, TWO** years, for sale or trade for one about same age. J. Baldwin, Wastina, Alta.

**YORKSHIRES, PURE BRED, FOUR** months. Mrs. H. P. Domoney, Penhold, Alta.

### FARM LANDS

**IRRIGABLE FARMS FOR SALE OR RENT.** You can farm profitably on irrigable land in Southern Alberta because the soil is fertile, the water supply is ample and the climate is favorable. Therefore crops are sure. All kinds of livestock thrive. Whole or partly irrigated farms can be bought at prices ranging from \$12 to \$30 per acre, plus irrigation costs, or can be rented on favorable terms with an option to purchase later. Near towns, railways, markets, schools. Get further information from the IRRIGATION COUNCIL OF ALBERTA, 117 Provincial Building, Lethbridge.

**WILL EXCHANGE FARM, SEVEN MILES** north west of Tofield, value \$1,600, for car, improved town or city property, cattle or horses. For particulars apply R. W. Pincott, Tofield, Alberta.

### CHILDREN'S CLOTHING

**OUR SPECIAL BABY OUTFITS WILL DE-**light you. No. 1 Baby Outfit, 20 piece, trimmed in pink or blue, \$15.00; No. 2 Baby Outfit, 37 piece, trimmed in pink or blue, \$25.00; No. 3 Baby Outfit, 43 piece, trimmed in pink or blue, \$35.00; No. 4 Baby Outfit, 47 piece, trimmed in pink or blue, \$50.00. We carry a complete range of children's wear for boys and girls. Boys' pant special, \$1.95. Boys' sweaters, all wool, ages 3 to 14 years, special from \$1.50. The Children's Dept., The Arcade, Eighth Avenue West, Calgary.



# MORE FACTS

## REGARDING FARM IMPLEMENTS

No. 2 of a Series

### Factors That Control Implement Prices

**T**HE four principal factors determining the ultimate price of farm implements are, Raw Materials, Labor, Transportation, and Volume of Production.

Over none of these has the manufacturer any actual control.

In 1913 the farm implement industry after three-quarters of a century of progress and development, due to improved methods of production, had become established on a sound basis. Every superfluous item of cost had been extracted, and machines were being turned out in mass production at minimum prices.

Then came the war. Everything began to increase in cost until, by 1921 unprecedented levels were reached. The manufacturer's raw materials increased 175%, labor 153%, and transportation 44% to 100%, while production decreased about 50%. Implements, however, only advanced 103%, whereas wheat, the principal farm product had reached its peak of 263% two years earlier in 1919.

#### Materials

Consider now the advance made by some of the most important materials used in implement manufacture. Malleable iron castings cost 100% more than in 1914, steel 128%, cotton duck 169%, coke 125% and lumber from 113% to 248%. Yet implements are only 80.4% higher than before the war.

#### Labor

The farmer knows the effect that the high cost of labor has on his production cost and can appreciate how it likewise affects the implement maker. Approximately 80% of all money received by the manufacturer from the farmer for machines is paid for labor—not

to workers in the implement factories alone, but in the steel mills, the mines, the forests and the railroads. Labor at present is 113% greater than before the war.

#### Transportation

Increased freight on incoming materials increased 90% since 1914. In addition freight is prepaid on implements to the customer's station, a fact not always taken into consideration in price comparison. These charges on the out-going product have increased from 44 to 100%. It costs \$33.45 to ship an 8-foot Binder from the factory to Calgary, 2,065 miles, while to London, England, the charge on the same implement is only \$19.72, although the distance is 3,810 miles. To Havre, France, 3,671 miles distance, the cost is only \$17.82, and to Melbourne, Australia, about 11,000 miles from Toronto, the charge is \$23.52.

#### Volume of Production

Volume of production depends upon demand and volume is the key to lower costs and lower prices. When production rises by leaps and bounds, (as, for instance, in the automobile industry), the costs come down. When demand and production fall (as in the farm implement industry), costs go up. The following figures taken for the U. S., but which are relatively applicable to Canada as well, will explain this more clearly.

Automobile Production		Implement Production	
1914	543,679 cars	4,119,537 machines	
1922	2,406,396 "	1,206,059 "	
Inc. 1,862,717 or 343%		Dec. 2,913,478 or 71%	

The difficult position of the Implement industry will be readily understood. It has been caught between two forces—rising costs and decreased production—and has been dealt a serious blow. Yet—

*Implement Prices Offer the Greatest Value for the Farmer's Dollar*

## MASSEY-HARRIS COMPANY, Limited

ESTABLISHED 1847

Toronto, Montreal, Moncton, Winnipeg, Brandon, Regina, Saskatoon,  
Swift Current, Yorkton, Calgary, Edmonton. Agencies Everywhere